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At An ASSEMBLY *held in* PHILADELPHIA, *the Fifteenth Day of* OCTOBER, ANNO DOMINI, 1753.

BY the Returns of the Sheriffs of Six Counties, it appears that the following Gentlemen were chosen to serve in Assembly as Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania* for the Year ensuing, *viz.*

For *Philadelphia* County.
Isaac Norris,
Edward Warner,
Evan Morgan,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Joseph Fox.

For *Philadelphia* City.
Benjamin Franklin.
William Callender,

For *Bucks* County.
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hampton,
Samuel Brown,
William Hoge,

For *Bucks* County.
Griffith Owen,
Derrick Hogeland,
Jonathan Ingham,
William Smith.

For *Chester* County.
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,
George Ashbridge,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
Peter Dicks.
William Peters,
Joseph James.

For *Lancaster* County.
Arthur Patterson,
James Wright.

For *Lancaster* County.
Calvin Cooper,
Peter Worral.

For *York* County.
John Wright,
DavidM'Connaughy

For *Cumberland* County.
No Return made, nor Representatives appeared.

For *Berks* County.
Moses Starr.

For *Northampton* County.
No Return made, but *William Parsons* appeared.

And a Quorum of the Representatives being met, proceeded, according to the Charter of Privileges and Laws of this Province, to the Choice of a Seaker, and ISAAC NORRIS, Esq; was unanimously chosen Speaker of this House for the ensuing Year, and accordingly placed in the Chair.

Ordered, That *Edward Warner, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, Thomas Cummings,* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives have met, and proceeded to the Choice of a Speaker, and desire to know when he will be pleased to receive the House that they may present their Speaker.

The Sheriffs of *Lancaster*, *York*, *Cumberland* and *Northampton*, neglected to deliver or send to the House the Constables Returns, and Lists of Electors for the respective Counties, as they are by Law directed to do.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would be at the Council Chamber by Twelve o'Clock this Morning.

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Northampton* was brought to the House, by which it appeared that *William Parsons* was chosen Representative to serve in Assembly for the said County.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary,

SIR,

'The Governor is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House with their Speaker."

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor; and being returned the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, and presented their Speaker, and that the Governor was pleased to approve their Choice. That the Speaker had then in the Name and Behalf of the House claimed the usual Privileges, *viz.*

That the House, during their Sitting in Assembly, may enjoy Freedom of Speech in all their Propositions and Debates.

That the better to discharge the Business of the Public, they may at all seasonable Times have free Access to the Governor.

That their Persons and Estates may be protected from all Arrests and Insults during the Time of Privilege accustomed.

That it would please the Governor to take no Notice of any Report that may be made, touching any Matter or Thing that may be moved or debated in the House, until the same shall have passed into a Resolve, nor give the least Credit to such Report. And lastly,

That his own (the Speaker's) unwilling Mistakes may be excused, and not imputed to the House.

All which he had requested as the just Right and Privileges of the Freemen of *Pennsylvania*, derived and confirmed to them by the Charters and Laws of the Province.

And the Governor was pleased to say, they were the just and indisputable Rights of the House, and that he should never attempt to violate them.

Then the Qualifications by Law appointed, were taken and subscribed, first by the Speaker in the Chair, and then at the Table by all the rest of the Members present, in their Order.

Resolved, That *William Franklin* be Clerk of this House for the ensuing year.

And he took and subscribed the usual Qualifications accordingly.

Resolved, That *Samuel Kirk* be Sergeant at Arms to this House for the Year ensuing.

Resolved, That *Edward Kelly* be Door-keeper to this House for the ensuing Year.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock. *P. M.*

Sundry Letters from *Robert Charles*, Esq; Assistant to the Agent, were laid before the House by the Speaker, and read; and ordered to lie on the Table for the Persual of the Members.

Resolved, That *Richard Patridge*, Esq; be Agent of this Province, at the Court of *Great-Britain* for the ensuing Year.

Resolved, That *Fifty Pounds* Sterling be allowed *Robert Charles* Esq; as an Assistant to the Agent for the Year ensuing.

Ordered, That *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be, with the Speaker, a Committee of Correspondence.

Ordered, That the said Committee do send to *Robert Charles*, Esq; a complete Copy of all the Laws now in Force in this Province.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter*, *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *George Ashbridge* and *Peter Worral* be a Committee of Grievances for the Year ensuing; and they have Power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, That *Edward Warner*, *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender*, *Joseph Hampton*, *Thomas Cummings* and *Peter Worral* be a Committee to audit and settle the Accounts of the General Loan-Office, and other Public Accounts, and to sink and destroy the Bills of Credit received in Exchange, pursuant to the late Paper Money Acts; and to count all the Monies, and report, together with the said Accounts, the Sum they shall actually find in the Trustees Hands; and they have Power to send for Persons, Paper and Records.

Resolved, That *Michael Lightfoot* be Treasurer of this Province for the ensuing Year.

Ordered, That *Edward Warner* and *Benjamin Franklin* be a Committee to revise the Minutes before they are printed.

A Petition from *Alexander Magenty,* of the County of *Cumberland, Indian* Trader, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner having been trading with the *Cuttawa Indians,* who are in Alliance with the Crown of *Great-Britain,* was on the Twenty-sixth of *January* last, as he was returning home, taken Prisoner by a Party of *French Indians,* of the *Cagnawaga* Nation, near the River *Kantucqui,* a Western Branch of the *Ohio;* that the said *Indians* beat and abused the Prisoner in a most barbarous and cruel Manner, and then sent him to *Montreal;* that from *Montreal* he wrote a Letter to the Mayor of *Albany,* desiring that he would endeavour to obtain his Release, which the said Mayor did at length accomplish, upon paying about *Twenty Pounds* to the *Indians* who took him; that the Petitioner is now returned to this City, destitute of Clothes and other Necessaries, nor has any Thing wherewithal to bear his Expences to *Cumberland* County, the Place of his Residence; therefore prays this House would take his unhappy Case into Consideration, and grant him such Relief as to their Wisdom shall seem meet.

Ordered, That the said Petitioner do attend this House To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Petition of *Alexander Magenty, Indian* Trader, was again read, and considered; and the Petitioner attending according to Order, was called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to him by the House, he was directed to withdraw.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Six Pounds* be allowed to the said *Magenty,* towards defraying his Expences to *Cumberland* County.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Joseph Trotter, Joseph Fox, Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be a Committee to inspect the Laws of this Province, and report which of them are expired or near expiring, and ought to be re-enacted;

with their Opinion what Amendments to them or others may be necessary.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be a Committee to enquire into the State and Circmstances of the Trade of this Province with regard to the Quantity of our Paper Currency from its first Emission in 1723, to the present Time.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Fourteenth Day of the Month called *January* next.

Ordered, That *Thomas Cummings* and *Joseph Gibbons* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him therewith.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that the proposed Time of Adjournment did by no Means suit him; but if the House would agree to meet about the Beginning of *February* he sholud have no Objection thereto.

The House taking the same into Consideration;

Resolved, That this House will now adjourn to the Second Day of the first Week of the Month called *Febraury* next.

And then the House did adjourn accordingly.

THE House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House is met according to their Adjournment, and desire to know if he hath any Thing to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed Yesternight to wait upon the Governor, report, that soon after they had left the House, they met with the Secretary, who informed them, that the Governor had directed him to receive the Message of the House, and to acquaint them, that he would send a Message to the House in the Morning.

The Secretary attending, was called in, and addressing himself to the Chair, said,

SIR,

'The Governor is sorry to find himself prevented by Indisposition from now communicating to the House, in a proper Manner, sundry Letters which he some Time since received, as well from his Majesty's Ministers, as from several of the neighboring Governors, relating to *Indian* Affairs; which, nevertheless, he hopes yet shortly to be able to do, if it shall please God to favour him with the Recovery of his Health.

'In the mean Time, it will be equally agreeable to him, whether the House thinks fit to come to a short Adjournment, or shall proceed to prepare such Business as they may have to lay before him, when his Health will permit him to receive it, which he would willingly hope will not be long."

Then the Secretary withdrew.

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Cumberland* was brought to the House, by which it appeared that *John Armstrong* and *Joseph Armstrong* were chosen Representatives to serve in Assembly for the said County.

And the said *John Armstrong* and *Joseph Armstrong*, now appearing, did, with *Griffith Owen*, returned a Representative for the County of *Bucks*, take and subscribe the usual Qualification by Law appointed to be taken by the Members of Assembly; and they then took their Seats in the House accordingly.

A Petition from a considerable Number of the Inhabitants of *Chester* County was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that by an Act of Assembly of this Province, made in the Eighth Year of the late King, entituled, *An Act for establishing Courts of Judicature in this Province*, it is directed, that upon any Issue joined in the Supreme Courts (appointed to be holden and kept by the said Act) such Issue shall be tried in the Country from whence the Cause was removed, before the Judge of the said Court, who, are impowered and required, by the said Act, to go the Circuit twice in every year, to try such Issues in Fact, as should be depending in the said Supreme Court, on certain Days and Times in the said Act mentioned; that the Petitioners are humbly of Opinion, that at the Time of making the said Act of Assembly, the Circumstances of this Province were such, as that the Times therein limited for holding the said Courts in the several Counties, in the said Act mentioned, were suitable and sufficient, but those Circumstances being since much altered, both with respect to the Number of Inhabitants, and Increase of Business at those Courts, it has now become impracticable for the Judges to attend in the several Counties, at the Times by Law required, and go through the necessary Business, which has occasioned the introducing the Practice of holding all the said Courts at the City of *Philadelphia*, to the great Inconveniency not only of the Petitioners, but of the

Inhabitants of the other Counties in the said Province, as they are by that Means put to considerable Expense in attending the said Courts as Jurors, Witnesses, *&c.* therefore praying this House would take the Premises into their serious Consideration and grant such Relief as in their Wisdom they shall judge most meet.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Calvin Cooper, returned a Representative for the County of *Lancaster*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the usual Qualification by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly; and then took his Place accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to consider the State of the Trade of this Province, *&c.* made their Report in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

In Obedience to the Order of the House, your Committee have enquired into the State and Circumstances of the Trade of this Province with regard to the Quantity of our Paper Currency from its first Emission in 1723, to the present Time; and do find, by authentic Accounts, that before that Period our Trade was in a declining State; and that since the same, our Importations from *Great-Britain* have increased as follows, *viz.*

In 1723 they amounted only to	£ 15,992	19	4
In 1730 they were	48,592	7	5
In 1737 they were	56,690	6	7
In 1742 they were	75,295	3	4
In 1747 they were	82,404	17	7
In 1751 they were	190,917	5	1

We do also find, that in the Years 1729, 1730 and 1731 we had near the same Quantity of Paper Money that we now have, and ever since have had; and that our Exportations of Wheat, Flour, Bread and Flaxseed amounted then, one Year with another, to little more than £60,000 *per Annum;* whereas in the Year 1749 those Articles amounted to....£148,104 4 11
In 1750 to 155,174 19 6
In 1751 to 187,457 11 1
which last is more than treble the Value of those Articles exported twenty Years before——For a more particular Account of those Exportations, your Committee beg Leave to refer to a Valuation of the several Articles hereunto annexed.

By the Report of a former Committee of Assembly, made in *August*, 1752, it appears that our Numbers of People, and Domestic Trade, have increased in like Proportion.

Your Committee beg Leave to observe, that they apprehend the Occasions for a Medium of Trade must have increased equally with the Trade; and that our Foreign and Domestic Commerce could not have been carried on as it has been for some Years past, had not the accidental Introduction of great Quantities of Silver and Gold, by the War, supplied the Deficiency of our Paper Currency for that Purpose. And since Complaints of the Want of a sufficient Medium (occasioned by the Diminution of our Quantity of Gold and Silver, which is continually sent Home in Return for British and Indian Manufactures) are daily growing louder and our Paper Currency must, by the present Acts, begin shortly to diminish one sixth Part annually, your Committee humbly submit it to the Consideration of the House, whether it is not now become necessary, not only to prolong the Re-emissions, but to strike and emit an additional Sum.

EVAN MORGAN, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
JOSEPH STRETCH, WILLIAM CALLENDER."

Febrary 6, 1754.

An Account of the Quantities of Wheat, Flour, Bread and Flaxseed, which have been exported from the Port of Philadelphia, *in the Years* 1729, 1730, 1731, and 1749, 1750, 1751, *viz.*

		Middle Price.									
		Per C.		Per Cask,			Per Bushel,				
		s.	d.	£	s.	d.	s.	d.			
1729.	35,438 Barrels of Flour,	11	0	1	1	0	..	..	£37,209	18	0
	4,067 Tierces of Bread,	12	0	2	0	9	..	..	£ 8,286	10	3
	5,459 Barrels of Bread,	..	..	0	14	0	..	..	3,821	6	0
	264 Quarter-casks of ditto, ..	0	50	..	..	66	0	0	12,173	16	3
	74,800 Bushels of Wheat,						3	6	13,090	0	0
									£62,473	14	3
1730.	38,570 Barrels of Flour,	10	6	1	0	0	..	..	£38,570	0	0
	247 Hogsheads of Bread,	11	0	2	17	0	..	..	£703	19	0
	4,331 Tierces of ditto,	..	..	1	18	0	..	..	8,228	18	0
	5,403 Barrels of ditto,	..	..	0	13	0	..	..	3,511	19	0
	188 Quarter-Casks of ditto,	..	..	0	4	9	..	..	44	13	0
									£12,489	9	0
	38,643 Bushels of Wheat,						3	4	6,440	10	0
									£57,499	19	0

1731.	56,639 Barrels of Flour,	8 0	0 15 9	£44,603 4 3
	54 Hogshead of Bread,	9 0	2 8 6	£ 130 19 0
	3,853 Tierces of ditto,		1 12 4	6,229 0 4
	8,059 Barrels of ditto,		0 11 0	4,432 9 0
	470 Quarter-Casks of Ditto,		0 4 3	99 17 6
				£10,892 5 10
	53,326 Bushels of Wheat,		2 6	6,665 15 0
	255 Hogshead of Flaxseed,		0 13 0	420 15 0
				£62,582 0 1
1749.	67,092 Barrels of Flour,	16 6	1 10 7	£102,594 17 0
	10 Hogshead of Bread,	17 0	4 2 2	41 1 8
	525 Tierces of ditto,		2 14 9	1,437 3 9
	19,501 Barrels of ditto,		0 19 0	18,525 19 0
	6,319 Quarter-casks of ditto,		0 6 3	1,974 4 9
	5 Tons of ditto,	17 0		85 0 0
				22,063 9 0
	45,775 Bushels of Wheat,		5 [illegible]	12,015 18 9
	3,048 Hogshead of Flaxseed,		3 15 0	11,430 0 0
				£148,104 4 11
1750.	82,095 Barrels of Flour,	12 6	1 3 7	£96,803 13 9
	79 Hogshead of Bread,	13 0	3 5 3	£ 257 14 9
	939 Tierces of ditto,		2 3 6	2,042 6 6
	17,656 Barrels of ditto,		0 15 0	13,242 0 0
	6,418 Quarter-casks of ditto,		0 5 3	1,684 14 6
	113 Tons of ditto,	13 0		1,469 0 0
				18,695 15 9
	86,745 Bushels of Wheat,		4 0	17,349 0 0
	6,361 Hogshead of Flaxseed,		3 10 0	22,263 10 0
	36 Barrels of ditto,		1 15 0	63 0 0
				22,326 10 0
				£155,174 19 6
1751.	108,695 Barrels of Flour,	12 0	1 2 9	£123,610 11 3
	769 Tierces of Bread,	12 6	2 2 2	1,621 6 2
	27,054 Barrels of ditto,		0 14 6	19,614 3 0
	7,828 Quarter-casks of ditto,		0 5 1	1,989 12 4
	282 Tons of ditto,	12 6		3,525 0 0
				26,750 1 6
	76,870 Bushels of Wheat,		3 10	14,733 8 4
	9,895 Hogsheads of Flaxseed,		2 5 0	22,263 15 0
	62 Barrels of ditto,		1 2 6	69 15 0
				22,333 10 0
				£187,457 11 1

In the above Calculation a Cask of Flour is computed at 1*C.* 3*qrs.* oo*lb.* Nett. A Tierce of Bread at 2*C.* 3*qrs,* 7*lb.* Nett, and a Hogshead of Flaxseed at seven Bushels, beside the Charge of Cask, *&c.*

The Report of the Committee in *August*, 1752, on the State of our Paper Curency Trade and Numbers of People, *&c.* was also read.

Resolved, That this House will take the Report of the Committee on the State of our Trade, *&c.* into Consideration this Afternoon.

A Petition from the Trustees, Commissioners, and Assessors of the County of *Cumberland* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the said Couny is not as yet able to defray the Expence of building a Prison, and are under an absolute Necessity of borrowing a Sum of Money for that Purpose; they therefore pray that this House would be pleased to grant them the Sum of *Four Hundred Pounds* out of the Public Loan-Office, for so long a Time, and on such Security, as shall be judged most proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

An Account from *John Harris*, of *Peckstan*, in this Province, for his Trouble and Expences in going to *Ohio*, on a Message from the Governor, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee on Accounts.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of the County of *Northampton* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the laying out the Roads and Townships within the said County, how necessary soever the same may be for the general Good, is very much neglected, by reason that the Charge attending the doing thereof, frequently falls upon a new public-spirited Persons, whilst others, who reap equal Benefit with them, do absolutely refuse to pay their reasonable and proportionable Part of the Expence, alledging that there is no Law of the Province that abliges them to contribute thereto; therefore praying that this House would be pleased to take the Premises into their serious Consideration, and grant such Relief therein as shall be judged most equitable and proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House, according to the Resolve of this Morning, proceeded to the Consideration of the Report of the Committee on the State of the Trade of this Province, *&c*, and, after a considerable Time spent therein, came to the following Resolutions, *viz.*

Resolved, N. C. D. That it is necessary that the Paper Money of this Province should be re-emitted for a further Time.

Resolved, N. C. D. That there is a Necessity of a further Addition to the Paper Money at present current by by Law within this Province.

Resolved, N. C. D. That there is a Necessity that a Sum should be struck to exchange the ragged and torn Bills now by Law current within this Province.

Ordered, That *Edward Warner*, *Evan Morgan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Wright*, *John Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill agreeable to the foregoing Resolves.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill pursuant to the Resolves of Yesternight, reported that they had made some Progress therein and should be ready to report the same in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Pounds* to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The printed Copy of the Treaty held with the *Ohio Indians* at *Carlisle*, in *October* last, by *Richard Peters*, *Isaac Norris* and *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquires, Commissioners appointed by the Governor for that Purpose being brought to the House, was ordered to be read, and it was done accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House proceeded to read the second time the Bill for striking the Sum of *Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province; and, after a considerable Debate thereupon;

Resolved, That the Sum of be struck and emitted be *Forty Thousand Pounds*, and that the Blank in the said Bill be filled up accordingly.

And the farther Reading and Consideration of the said Bill was referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Letter from the Agent to *Benjamin Franklin*, one of the Committee of Correspondence, was laid before the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Lancaster* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that although by an Act of Assembly of this Province, the Justices are directed to divide their respective Counties into Precincts or Townships, yet as no Provision is made by the said Act, for defraying the Expence of making such Division, the good Intent of the same has hitherto been defeated; and that, for Want of some Method established by Law, for defraying the expences aforesaid, much of the improved Part of the Province is not yet erected into Townships, and many of the Returns of Townships already laid out, are not to be depended on; that the Division Lines lately run between the said County and *Berks* have cut off the Townships formerly laid out, in such Manner as to render them, very disporportionate to other Townships, as well as uncertain in Regard to their Limits; that the Petitioners conceive these Inconvenlences cannot be remedied until some Method of raising Money to discharge the said expence be settled by Law; they therefore pray that this House would be pleased to consider the Premises, and grant such Relief therein, as shall appear most suitable.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House proceeded in reading and considering of the Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province; and sundry Alterations being made therein, the further Consideration thereof was referred to To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province, being read the second time, was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province, being transcribed, a Part thereof was now read, and the Remainder ordered to be read To-morrow Morning.

The following Proposal was presented to the House, and read, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *in General Assembly met.*

WE the Subscribers, being pursuaded that the same charitable Disposition which induced the House of Representatives some Time ago to found an Hospital for the Relief of the sick Poor, *&c.* will still incline them to promote all proper Measures to render so laudable an Institution of the most extensive Service: With this View, we offer to sign the Paper Bills of Credit, proposed to be issued by the Law now under Consideration, and we will contribute such Sums of Money as may by Law become due to us for that Service, towards increasing the Capital Stock of the said Hospital, or to be applied in such other Manner for the Uses thereof, as the Managers may think most proper.

Submitted with all due Respect to the Consideration of the House, by

2*d*. *Mo*. 11*th*,
1754.

Hugh Roberts,
John Reynell,
Joseph Wharton,
John Smith,
James Pemberton,
Isaac Greenleafe,
Isaac Jones,
Thomas Crosby,
Daniel Williams,
Charles Jones,
Samuel Hazard,
Samuel Rhoads
Joseph Morris,
Samuel Sansom,
Edward Penington,
Thomas Clifford,
William Grant,
Thomas Say,
Joseph Saunders,
George Spofford,
John Pole,
Joseph King,
Owen Jones,
Israel Pemberton,
Jonathan Evans,
William Logan,
Samuel Burge."

And three of the Members of this House, viz. *Edward Warner*, *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox* offered likewise to be Signers of the Money, proposed to be emitted by the Bill now under Consideration, on the same Conditions.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from the Justices, Grand Jury, Commissioners and Assessors of the County of *Lancaster* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that frequent Complaints having been made by the Inhabitants of the said County, and others, of the Want of a Bridge over Conestogoe Creek, on the Provincial Road from the City of *Philadelphia*, induced the Petitioners to take the Premises into their Consideration, and that they are of Opinion, the same is absolutely necessary, and would be of great Service to the Public; that by Reason of the frequent and extraordinary Freshes, in the Spring and Fall Seasons, and the Ice in the Winter, the Inland Trade of the back Counties, which is of the greatest Importance to their Inhabitants, and to the City of *Philadelphia*, is greatly obstructed; that the said Obstructions mostly happening in the Season for Markets, are a great Damage and Discouragement to those who travel with Land Carriages; and likewise are often very detrimental to Persons having Matters depending in the Courts of Judicature, and other public Meetings, in said County, who are frequently obliged to venture through the said Creek, at the Risk of their Lives; that the Petitioners have examined the Public Accounts of the said County, and understand, that, by Estimation, a suitable Bridge for the said Service (a Plan whereof is annexed to their Petition) cannot be erected at less Expence than near *Two Thousand Pounds*, which Sum they apprehend to be too great to be now raised upon the Inhabitants of their County, considering that within these last ten Years, they have built a Stone Bridge over little *Conestogoe Creek* on the said Road, re-built their Prison, and walled in their Prison Yard or Lot, at the Expence of *Fifteen Hundred Pounds*, as well as paying near *Three Thousand Pounds* for the Premium for destroying Squirrels, besides defraying all other incident Charges; that as the Premises are of so great Consequences to the Inhabitants of this Province in general, and the Expences thereof would be at present an extraordinary Burden on the said County in particular, who are but a small Part of those who have Occasion to make Use of the said Road; the Petitioners therefore pray that this House would be pleased to take the same into their serious Consideration, and order a Sum of Money to be paid out of the Public Treasury into the Hands of the Treasurer of said County, to be applied towards the said Service, which, as the Petitioners apprehend, will encourage the Inhabitants more freely to assist in the said laudable Undertaking.

Another Petition from divers Inhabitants of *Lancaster* County, of the same Import with the preceding, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Lancaster* was likewise presented to the House and read, praying that the Law of this Province, relating to Supreme Courts, may be amended, and a Clause inserted therein, extending the Circuit of the Judges of said Court to the said County; and that this House would make Provision for the Officers of the said Court on whom the Duties thereof are incumbent.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Proposal from sundry Gentlemen, offering to be Signers of the Paper Money intended to be issued by the Bill now under Consideration, being again read,

Resolved, That their Names be accordingly inserted in the said Bill, together with those of the three Members of this House, who made the like Offer on Yesternight.

The Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province, being read the third time;

Resolved, That the said Bill do pass.

Resolved, That the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds be now allowed to the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esq; Governor of this Province, in Part of his Support.

And an Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Ordered That *Joseph Stretch* and *Thomas Cummings* wait upon the Governor with the said Order, and acquaint him, 'that the House, on receiving the Governor's Message of the Fifth Instant, were concerned to hear of his ill State of Health; but as he then gave them some Expectation, that he should in a short time be able to proceed upon the public Business, and acquainted them that it was equal to him, whether they made a short Adjournment, or proceeded to prepare such Business as they might have to lay before him, they have chose to continue their present Sitting, as being in the most suitable Season with regard to their private Affairs, hoping the Governor's Indisposition would not long continue; and as they now have the Pleasure of hearing that his Health is in a great Measure restored, they beg Leave to acquaint him, that they have prepared some Business to lay before him whenever it may suit him to receive the same."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to thank the House for the Order for a Part of his Support, and said, that he expected, in two or three Days, his Health would permit him to receive any Business the House might have to lay before him.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Petition from *James Read*, Esq; recommended to this Assembly by the last, was read, and the Consideration thereof referred to the next Sitting of this House.

The Petition from the United Brethren, living at *Bethlehem*, in *Northampton County*, which was referred to this Assembly by the last, was read, and considered, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Petition from divers Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, relating to the Assaying and Stamping of Gold and Silver, recommended to this Assembly by the last, was read, and the Consideration thereof was referred to the Committee appointed to inspect the Laws of this Province, *&c.* who, if they think proper, are to bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in said Petition.

The Petition relating to Vendues, presented to the Assembly on the Sixth of *February*, 1752, was taken up and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for regulating Vendues; the Bill for laying a Tax on Dogs kept within the City of *Philadelphia*, and the Townships of the *Northern Liberties*, *Passyunk* and *Moyamensing*, and for the better Support of the Poor within the said City, and Townships; and the Bill for preventing the Exportation of unmerchantable Wheat, Indian Corn, Flaxseed, and other Grain, Shingles, Staves, Heading, Boards and Timber, together with the several Petitions relating to the said Bills, recommended to the Consideration of this Assembly, by the last, were severally read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Petition against Gaming and Gaming-houses, presented to the Assembly in 1752, with the Report of the Committee at that Time thereon, and which were referred to the Consideration of this Assembly by the last, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *Joshua North*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Shopkeeper, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed a fit and capable Person for inspecting and measuring Grain, and Seed, is now about to be nominated by this House; that the Petitioner conceives himself properly qualified for the said Office, and will give sufficient Security for his diligent and faithful Performance thereof according to Law; and praying that the House would be pleased to confer the same upon him, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING in *September* last received a Letter, by Express, from Col. *Fairfax* of *Virginia*, informing me that some Chiefs of the *Ohio Indians* were then at *Winchester* solliciting the Assistance of that Government, and intended, as soon as they should have finished there, to come to *Carlisle*, in the County of *Cumberland* where they entreated I would be pleased to give them the Meeting; I assembled the Council, and being favoured with the Attendance of the Speaker, and such Members of your House as were in Town, I laid it before them for their Advice, who were unanimously of Opinion, that a Conference with these *Indians* might afford a good Opportunity of becoming acquainted with a true State of their Dispositions and Affairs; and that proper Presents should be provided out of the Sum voted by the Assembly in the Month of *May* last, and there distributed for their Service and Relief. Entirely concurring with these Sentiments, as my own Health did not permit me to undertake such a Journey, I issued a Commission to Mr. *Peters*, and Mr. *Norris* and Mr. *Franklin*, empowering them to hold a Treaty with those *Indians*, and to make them the Presents of Condolence, and such others, as they should find suitable, on being truly informed of their Necessities; who accordinly preceeded to *Carlisle*, and held a Treaty with them: For the Particulars whereof, together with the Expences accruing thereon, I shall refer you to the Treaty itself, and the Commissioners, who are Members of your House.

I have received a Letter from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Holdernesse*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, which, with others of the like Tenor to all his Majesty's Governors on the Continent, was sent Express by a Sloop of War to *Virginia;* wherein his Majesty lays his Royal Commands on me, in case the Subjects of any foreign Prince shall have presumed to make Encroachments, erect Forts, or commit any other Hostilities within his Majesty's Dominions, if, after representing to them the Injustice of their Proceedings, they do not desist, to draw forth the armed Force of the Province, and to endeavour to repel Force by Force; and to call the Assembly, and to engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs may require. Whilst I was preparing to make the Requisition enjoined by his Majesty, I received a Letter from Governor *Dinwiddie*, informing me that he had dispatched Major *Washington* on that Service, to the Fort lately built on the *Ohio* by the *French*, and an Express has this Week brought me Governor *Dinwiddie's* Account of that Gentlemen's Return, with the Answer of the Commander of the Fort, who avows the Hostilities, already committed, and declares his Orders from the King of *France* are to build more Forts, take Possession of all the Country, and oppose all who shall resist, *English* as well as *Indians* and that he will certainly execute these Orders as early as the Season will permit.

Gentlemen, *French* Forts and *French* Armies so near us will be everlasting Goads in our Sides; our Inhabitants from thence will feel all the Miseries and dreadful Calamities that have been heretofore suffered by our neighbouring Colonies; all those Outrages, Murders, Rapines and Cruelties, to which their People have been exposed, are now going to be experienced by ourselves, unless a Force be immediately raised sufficient to repel these Invaders. It is to be hoped therefore, that, as loyal Subjects to his Majesty, and in Justice to your Country, you will not fail to take into your Consideration the present Exigency of Affairs, and, as it will be attended with a very considerable Expence, and require a large Number of Men, make Provision accordingly, that I may be enabled to do what his Majesty, as well as the neighbouring Colonies will expect from a Government so populous, and likely to be so nearly affected with the Neighbourhood of *French* Garrisons.

I have further to inform you, that I have received a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, dated the Eighteenth Day of *September* last, informing me, that his Majesty has ordered an Interview to be held next Summer at *Albany*, with the *Six Nations*, and a large Present to be there distributed, and desiring I will lay this Matter before you, and recommend to you to make Provision for appointing Commissioners, to be joined with those of the other Governments, and for *Indian* Presents; and it being left to the Governor of *New-York* to appoint the Time of this Interview, he has informed my by Letter that he has fixed the Thirteenth or Fourteenth of *June* next for that Purpose; further Acquainting me, that the Lords of Trade have recommended it to him, to take Care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprised in one general Treaty to be made in his Majesty's Name, it appearing to their Lordships that the Practice of each Province making a separate Treaty for itself in its own Name, is very improper, and may be attended with great Inconveniences to his Majesty's Service.

Several Letters have passed between me and the Governor of *Virginia*, *New-York* and the *Massachusetts*, in which they make this Province the Tender of their Assistance, express an hearty Desire of acting in Concert with us against his Majesty's Enemies; concur in Sentiment with his Majesty's ministers of the Necessity of a general Union of all the Provinces, both in Councils and Forces: And as Experience, the best of Instructors, makes it evident beyond a Doubt, that without this, his Majesty's Colonies in *America* are in Danger of being swallowed by an Enemy, otherwise much inferior to them in Strength and Numbers, I most earnestly recommend it to you, and hope what is so well and justly said on this and other Matters, by Lord *Holdernesse*, the Lords of Trade and the neighbouring Governors, will have their full Force and Weight with you in your Deliberations.

The several Matters set forth in the late Treaty at *Carlisle*, evince the Necessity of appointing some Person to reside at *Ohio* among the *Indians* there, in whom the Goverment can place a Confidence; and, unless you can engage some such Persons, you must be sensible that your Presents will be of little Use, and the *Indians* will be lost to the *English* Interest.

You will likewise do the Public great Service, if, together with this necessary Measure, you will take the *Indian* Trade into your Consideration, and put it into some Order, for I am entirely of Opinion with the Commissioners, that this is absolutely necessary, as well for the *Indians* as for ourselves; and should be pleased it was well considered, and a Bill prepared for the Purpose.

Gentlemen, there is so much to be done, and so little Time to do it in, the Season being so far advanced, and Governor *Dinwiddie* expecting the Forces from this Province to join those of *Virginia*, early in *March*, on *Potowmack*, that I most earnestly entreat you will not delay the Supplies, nor deal them out with a sparing Hand, but use all the Expedition in your Power, for you will undoubtedly agree with me, that so alarming an Occasion has not occurred since the first Settlement of the Province, nor any one Thing happened that so much deserves your serious Attention.

The Secretary has my Orders to lay before you the several Letters and Papers mentioned in this Message, or otherwise necessary to give you a perfect Knowledge of all Matters you may want to be informed of in the Course of your Deliberations.

February 14, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

The Letters from the Earl of *Holdernesse*, and the Lords of Trade, mentioned in the above Message, are as follows, *viz.*

SIR, *Whitehall, August* 28, 1753.

'HIS Majesty having received Information of the March of a considerable Number of *Indians*, not in Alliance with the King, supported by some regular *European* Troops, intending, as it is apprehended, to commit some Hostilities on Parts of his Majesty's Dominions in *America:* I have the King's Commands to send you this Intelligence, and to direct you to use your utmost Diligence to learn how far the same may be well grounded, and to put you upon your Guard, that you may at all Events be in a Condition to resist any hostile Attempts that may be made upon any Parts of his Majesty's Dominions within your Government; and to direct you, in the King's Name, that in case the Subjects of any foreign Prince or State should presume to make any Incroachment on the Limits of his Majesty's Dominions, or to erect Forts on his Majesty's Lands, or commit any other Act of Hostility, you are immediately to represent the Injustice of such Proceedings, and to require them forthwith to desist from any such unlawful Undertaking: But if, notwithstanding our Requisition, they should still persist, you are then to draw forth the armed Force of the Province, and to use your best Endeavours to repel Force by Force. But as it is his Majesty's Determination not to be the Aggressor, I have the King's Commands most strictly to enjoin you not to make Use of the armed Force, under your Direction, excepting within the undoubted Limits of his Majesty's Dominions. And whereas it may be greatly conducive to his Majesty's Service, that all his Provinces in *America* should be aiding and assisting each other in case of any Invasion, I have it particularly in Charge from his Majesty to acquaint you, that it is his Royal Will and Pleasure, that you should keep up in exact Correspondence with all his Majesty's Governors on the Continent; and in case you shall be informed by any of them of any hostile Attempts, you are immediately to assemble the General Assembly within your Government, and lay before them the Necessity of a mutual Assistance; and engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs may require. I have wrote by this Conveyance to all his Majesty's Governors to the same Purpose.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

HOLDERNESSE."

SIR, *Whitehall, September* 18, 1753.

HIS Majesty having been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the *Six Nations* of *Indians*, and to direct his Governor of *New-York* to hold an Interview with them, for delivering these Presents, for burying the Hatchet, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, we think it our Duty to acquaint you therewith. And as we find it has been usual upon former Occasions, when an Interview has been held with these *Indians*, for all his Majesty's Colonies, whose Interest and Security is connected with, and depends upon them, to join in such Interview; and, as the present Disposition of those *Indians*, and the Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from the *British* Interest, appear to us to make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, we desire you will lay this Matter before the Council and General Assembly of the Province under your Government, and recommend to them forthwith to make a proper Provision for appointing Commissioners, to be joined with those of the other Governments, for renewing the Covenant Chain with the *Six Nations*, and for making such Presents to them as has been usual upon the like Occasions. And we desire that, in the Choice and Nomination of the Commissioners, you will take Care that they are Men of Character, Ability and Integrity, and well acquainted with *Indian* Affairs.

As to the Time and Place of Meeting, it is left to the Governor of *New-York* to fix it, and he has Orders to give you early Notice of it.

We are, Sir, your very loving Friends, and humble Servants,

DUNK HALIFAX,
J. GRENVILLE,
DUPPLIN."

And a Letter from the Commandant of the *French* Forces on *Ohio*, to Governor *Dinwiddie*, also sent down with the foregoing Message, was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

Monsieur,

COMME *j'ail 'Honneur de commander ici en Chef, Monsieur* Washington *m'a remis la Lettre que vous ècriviez au Commandant des Troupes* Francoises. *J'aurois ètè charmè que vous lui eussiez donnè Ordre, ou qu'il eût ètè disposè à se rendre en* Canada, *pour voir Monsieur nôtre Gènèral, auquel il appartient mieux qu'à moi, de mettre au jour l'Evidence & la Realitè des Droits du Roi mon Maître sur les Terres situèes le long de la* Belle Riviere, *& de contester les Prètentions du Roi de la* Grande Bretagne *à cet ègard.*

Je vais addresser vôtre Lettre à Monsieur le Marquis Duquisne; *sa Reponse me servira de loi, & s'il m'ordonne de vous la communiquer, Monsieur, je puis vous assurer, que je, ne negligerai rien pour vous la faire tenir promptement.*

Quant à la Sommation que vous me faites de me retirer, je ne me crois pas dans l' Obligation de m'y rendre; quelques que puissent être vos Instructions, je suis ici en vertu des Ordres de mon Gènèral, & je vous prie, Monsieur, de no pas douter un Instant que je suis dans la constante Resolution de m'y conformer avec toute l' Exactitude, & la Fermete que L'on peut attendre du meilleur Officier.

J'ignore que dans le Cours de cette Campagne il se soit rien passè qui puisse ètre reputè pour Acte d' Hostilite, ni qui soit contraire aux Traites qui subsistent entre les deux Couromres, dont la Continuation nous interesse, & nous flatte autant que Messieurs les Anglois. *S'il vous êut ètè agreàble, Monsieur, d'en venir sur ce Point à un Dètail particulier des Faits que motivent vôtre Plainte, j'aurois eu L' Honneur de vous rèpondre de la Facon la plus positive, & je suis persuadè que vous auriez eu lieu d'être satisfait.*

Je me suis fait un Devoir particulier de recevoir Monsieur Washington *avec la Distinction qui convient à vôtre Dignitė, à sa Qualitė, & à son grand Mėrite; je puis me flatter qu'il me rendra cette Justice aupres de vous, Monsieur, & qu'il vous fera connôitre ainsi que moi le Respect profond avec lequel je suis*, Monsieur,

Du Fort de la Riviere au *Boeuf*,
le 15 *Decembre*, 1753

Votre tres humble
& très obëïssant Serviteur
LEGARDEUR de ST. Pierre.

Translated into ENGLISH.

SIR,

'AS I have the Honour to command here in Chief, Mr. *Washington* delivered to me the Letter which you directed to the Commandant of the *French* Troops, I should have been pleased if you had given him Orders, or if he himself had been disposed to visit *Canada* and our General, to whom rather than to me, it properly appertains to demonstrate the the Reality of the King my Master's Right to the Lands situated along the *Ohio*, and to dispute the Pretentions of the King of *Great-Britain* in that respect.

I shall immediately forward your Letter to Monsieur le Marquis *Duquisne;* his Answer will be a Law to me: And if he directs me to communicate it to you, I assure you, Sir, I shall neglect nothing that may be necessary to convey it to you with Expedition.

As to the Requisition you make, that I reture, I cannot believe myself under any Obligation to submit to it. I am here in Virtue of my General's Orders; and I beg, Sir, that your would not doubt, a Moment of my fixt Resolution to conform to them, with all the Exactitude and Steadiness that might be expected from a better Officer.

I do not know that, in the Course of this Campaign, any Thing has passed that can be esteemed an Act of Hostility, or contrary to the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, the Continuation of which is as interesting and pleasing to us it can be to the *English*.

If it had been agreeable to you, Sir, in this Respect, to have made a particular Detail of the Facts which occasion your Complaint, I should have had the Honour of answering you in the most explicite Manner, and I am persuaded you would have had Reason to be satisfied.

I have taken particular Care to receive Mr. *Washington* with all the Distinction suitable to your Dignity, and to his Quality and great Merit; I flatter myself that he will do me this Justice, and join with me in testifying the profound Respect with which I am, Sir,

December 15, 1753. *Your most humble, and most*
From the Fort of Beef-River, *obedient Servant,*
LEGARDEUR DE ST. PIERRE."

A Petition from the Owners of the Meadow Land, and other Ground, lying near the Road from *Philadelphia*, to the *Point Ferry House*, opposite to *Gloucester*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the said Road leading from the Fast Land to the said Ferry is very useful and much frequented, but not being laid out by any Order of Court, is made too narrow, and having a Ditch on each Side, Carriages cannot pass each other; that many horned Cattle are driven along the said Road, and being generally wild and ungovernable, are dangerous and terrifying to Travellers, especially Women; that the said Road being narrow, has been frequently broke through, and rendered impassable by Storms, and high Tides, and the repairing such Breaches is attended with considerable Difficulty, there not being a sufficient Quantity of Gravel or suitable Earth near them; that if the said Road was laid out of a sufficient Breadth, not less than Eighty Feet, it would not only be much more capable to resist the Weight and Violence of the Water, but there would be also sufficient Earth and Materials for supporting the same; that the Petitioners have expended great Sums on the Repairs from Time to Time, and see no Hopes of putting an End to so grievous a Charge and Burden, unless the said Road is made wider than the common Highways, which they conceive may be best effected by an Act of Assembly: They therefore pray that this House would consider the Premises, and grant the Petitioners Leave to bring in a Bill for the Purposes aforesaid.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from sundry Retailers of spirituous Liquors in this Province was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Excise laid on the spirituous Liquors retailed within this Province is a heavy Tax, the Weight of which principally lays on the Retailers; that they conceive, that if the Importers of such Liquors were to pay a Duty of but *One-penny Halfpenny per* Gallon, upon the Importation, it would amount to more than the Excise now paid by them, as may be seen by a Paper annexed, and ease the Inhabitants of a considerable Burden; that one Person might then collect the Whole of the said Duty, by which Means the Expence of supporting so many Excise Officers, and the Risk to the Province of making bad Debts, will be much lessened.

The Paper referred to in the above Petition was also read, and is as follows, *viz.*

An Account of the Quantity of Rum and Wine imported into the Port of Philadelphia, *in the Province of* Pennsylvania *(as taken from the Collector's Books of his Majesty's Customs for the said Port) from the First Day of* August, 1752, *to the Thirty-first Day of* July, 1753.

Rum				Wine		
Hhds.	Puncheons	Tierces	Barrels	Pipes	Hhds.	Qr. Casks
3118	150	200	47	1449	30	188

ABRAHAM TAYLOR, COLLECTOR.

	Gallons
The Amount of the above being on or near a Computation,	526,700
Allow for what is distilled here,	80,000
are	606,700

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from sundry Merchants, and Practitioners in the Law, living in the City of *Philadelphia*, setting forth the great Advantages that a Bridge over *Conestagoe* Creek would be of to the Inhabitants of this Province in general was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

Ordered, That a Message be now prepared and sent to the Governor, with the Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province which being accordingly done, was read, approved of, and ordered to be transcribed.

The Message being transcribed, follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE gratefully acknowledge the Governor's Care in all our *Indian* Affairs, and more particularly at this critical Juncture; it therefore cannot but be very agreeable to us to find he has already so far recovered his Health as to join with us in the Public Business now before the House.

The distressed Circumstances of the *Indians*, our Allies, on the River *Ohio*, demand our closet Attention, and we shall not fail to proceed in the Matters contained in the Governor's Message, with all the Dispatch an Affair of so much Importance will admit of, in which we doubt not to comply with every Thing that can be reasonably expected on our Part.

In the mean Time, having some Days since prepared a Bill, which we conceive absolutely necessary, not only to the Trade and Welfare of this Province, but to the Support of Government, upon the Success of which our Deliberations, at this Time, must in a great Measure depend; we now lay it before him as a Bill of the utmost Importance, and to which we unanimously request he would be pleased to give his Assent."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Joseph Hampton* and *Peter Worral* do wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province; and the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take the Bill into Consideration, and give it all the Dispatch his Indisposition would admit of.

The Accounts of the Provincial Hospital being laid before the House by the Managers, in Pursuance of the Acts of Assembly for establishing the said Hospital.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright*, *John Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to inspect the said Accounts, and to visit the Hospital, and report the State thereof to the House.

The Committee appointed to inspect the Laws of this Province, *&c.* made their Report in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

WE, the Committee appointed to consider what Laws of this Province are expired or near expiring, and what others need Amendment, *&c.* do report,

That the Act for the new Appointment of Trustees, *&c.* passed in the Twenty-second Year of the present Reign, is, so far as relates to that Appointment, now expired.

That the several Acts for establishing of Ferries, except that for the Middle Ferry on *Schuylkill*, are expired.

That the Term of one Year mentioned in the Act for the Continuance of an Act, entituled, *An Act for the better securing the City of* Philadelphia *from the Danger of Gun-powder*, is expired; and as the present Situation of the Powerhouse, is inconvenient and dangerous to the Neighbourhood, of late Years grown much thicker, we think the Power might be better placed at the Battery, below the Town, where we understand a Powder-house is already erected.

That the Laws relating to Roads want some Amendment, at least to accommodate them to the particular Circumstances of some Roads and Streets.

That the Act for prohibiting the Importation of *Germans*, or other Passengers in too great Numbers in one Vessel, is defective, in not directing the Room each Freight shall have in Height, as well as in Length and Breadth; and also needs some other Provisions to prevent the Abuses those poor Strangers complain of; and also to prevent the Importation of *Germans* Papists and Convicts.

That it might be of Use to both Landlords and Tenants, and prevent chargeable Suits for small Dues, if Actions of Debt for Rent under *Five Pounds*, were not excepted in the *Five Pound* Act.

That as some Doubts have arisen, whether Persons under Age are bound by their Covenants to serve as Apprentices or Servants, it may be proper to ascertain that Matter by a Law.

That there seems a Necessity of providing some Law to punish more effectually the Counterfeiters of Gold and Silver Coin, and the Paper Currency of the neighbouring Colonies passing in this Province. And also to prevent the passing of Counterfeit *English* Halfpence, which are now bringing in in great Quantities.

That great Frauds are complained of in the making up of Hempt for Sale in this Province, and in the packing of Butter for Exportation; and as nothing is more to the Reputation of a People, and the Advantage of Commerce, than Faithfulness in making up their Wares and Merchandize, we think a Law to remedy the above Evils will be very useful.

That if the several Poor Acts were revised, and reduced to one, we think it would be more convenient than to have them, as at present, dispersed in the Book.

That the Clause relating to Witchcraft, in the Act for the Advancement of Justice, as it brings over a Statute since repealed, and seems unnecessary here, may as well be repealed, and the Substance of the Statute made instead of it, in the Ninth of the present Reign, brought over in its Place.

That for the better Preservation of the *English* Language in this Province, it may be proper to require by Law, that all written Contracts be in *English*, and to give some Encouragement to *English* Schools in those Parts of the Province where Foreingers are thick seated.

And that a Law for regulating the *Indian* Trade, is, in our Opinion, now become absolutely necessary.

All which is nevertheless humbly submitted to the House by

EVAN MORGAN,
JOSEPH TROTTER,
JOSEPH FOX,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
WILLIAM CALLENDER."

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Message from the Governor was again read, and considered, and the further Consideration thereof referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Petition of divers Inhabitants of this Province, relating to the Excise, was again read, and considered, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Message from the Governor was again read, and considered together with several of the Papers referred to therein, and the further Consideration thereof was referred to To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Message from the Governor was again read, and after a considerable Time spent thereon, the same was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

A Petition from *Isaac Garriques*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Cooper, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner some Time since made Application to this House, for the Office of Culler of Staves and Heading, in the said City, and being now informed that a Bill is preparing, wherein it will be necessary that such an Officer be named; he therefore renews his Request, that this House would be pleased to nominate and appoint him to the said Office.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The House again proceeded upon the Consideration of the Message from the Governor, and after some Time spent therein, referred the same to farther Consideration To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Account of Money lately paid on account of *Indian* Expenses by the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, being laid before the House and read;

Ordered, That the said Account be referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House proceeded to the Consideration of the Governor's Message; and several of the Papers relating thereto, were again read, and referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be made current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province, with a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'AS neither my Inclination, the Shortness and Urgency of the Time, nor the Circumstances of my Health, will admit of my engaging in Controversy on the Subject of the Paper Money Bill, lately presented for my Approbation, I will cut off all Occasions for that, by giving, as I hereby do, an absolute Negative to the Bill.

You cannot but be sensible, Gentlemen, that the Funds you are now possessed of, which are to continue yet for several Years without Diminution, are greatly more than sufficient for the Support of Government; and notwithstanding what you are pleased to say of your "present Deliberations depending in a great Measure upon the Success of your Money Bill," I promise myself I shall find you much better Subjects to his Majesty, as well as greater Lovers of your Country than to suffer your Duty to the One, or your Zeal for the Preservation of the other, to be governed by a Concurrence or Disagreement of Sentiments between you and me, upon a Point in which each of us have an independant Right to judge for ourselves.

If, however, you should be of Opinion, that there will be a Necessity to strike a further Sum in the Bills of Credit, to defray the Charges of raising Supplies for his Majesty's Service in this Time of imminent Danger, and will create a proper Fund or Funds for sinking the same in a few Years, I will concur with you in passing a Law for that Purpose, thinking myself sufficiently warranted so to do, in Cases of real Emergency.

And now, Gentlemen, I hope you will, upon due Consideration, be of Opinion with me, that the chief End of your Bill will be hereby, in a great measure answered, as the Sum to be struck and circulated upon this Occasion, will be such an Addition to your present Currency, as probably may be thought sufficient for some Time.

I have nothing farther to say at present but to thank you for your Acknowledgments of my Care in *Indian* Affairs, and to press you to hasten your Resolutions upon the Matters recommended in my last Message, that I may as soon as possible, be able to acquaint the Governor of *Virginia* what Assistance he may expect from this Province.

February 19, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

And the said Message being again read, and considered, was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary;

SIR,

'I have his Honour's Command to acquaint the House, that *Andrew Montour* and *John Pattin*, two Messengers sent by him to *Ohio*, are returned, and that a Council will be called this Afternoon, when the Governor expects he will have something prepared, so as to be ready to lay before the House To-morrow Morning; and that he shall direct *Montour* and *Pattin* to give their Attendance, in order to answer such Questions as the House may incline to ask them."

Then the Secretary withdrew.

The House then proceeded upon the Consideration of the Governor's Message, sent down with the Paper Money Bill, and, after a considerable Time spent thereon, referred it to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of the Fourteenth Instant, was read, together with several of the Papers referred to therein, and after some Debate, the same was referred to furthr Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House again proceeded upon the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the Fourteenth Instant.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House sundry Papers relating to *Indian* Affairs, among which was an Account of *George Croghan's*, for carrying the Present given the *Indians* at *Carlisle* to *Ohio*, &c. which Account was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts, and the Consideration of the other Papers, was referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'clock, *P. M.*

The House proceeded in the Consideration of the Papers laid before them by the Governor, relating to *Indian* Affairs, and, after some Time spent therein, referred the further Consideration thereof till To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House proceeded in considering the Papers relating to *Indian* Affairs, and, after a considerable Time spent thereon;

Ordered, That *Andrew Montour* and *John Pattin* do attend this House in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Andrew Montour and John Pattin giving their Attendance according to Order, were called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to them by the House, were directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House having gone through, and maturely considered the several Papers relating to *Indian* Affairs, which he hath laid before them at this Sitting; and also examined his Messengers, concerning what they know in Relation to the Disposition of the *French* and *Indians* on *Ohio*, &c. desire to know if he hath any Thing more to communicate to the House that would give them further Light therein, or be of Use to them in their Deliberations thereupon.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had not withheld any Thing from the House relating to the *Indian* Affairs, now under their Consideration.

The Message from the Governor of the Fourteenth Instant was again read, Paragraph by Paragraph, and debated, and, after a considerable Time spent thereon, the same was referred to further Consideration.

Ordered, That *John Armstrong* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The House met prusuant to their Adjournment.

The Message from the Governor of the Fourteenth Instant was again read, and considered, and referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of the Fourteenth Instant was again read, and considered, and the further Consideration thereof referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the Fourteenth Instant, and, after a considerable Time spent thereon;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Thomas Cummings*, *Calvin Cooper* and *John Armstrong* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same, and report it to the House.

Ordered, That *Joshua Morris*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender*, *Griffith Owen* and *George Ashbridge* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for the better regulating the *Indian* Trade of this Province.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Fourteenth Instant, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, with some Amendments, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May is please the GOVERNOR,

THE unusual Manner in which the Governor has been pleased to refuse his Assent to a Bill of the greatest Importance to the Prosperity and Welfare of this Province, appears to us particularly unfortunate at this Time, when an easy Access to the Governor, and free Conferences with each other, would so naturally tend to cement the several Branches of the Legislature, by the strong Ties of their mutual Interest, notwithstanding any supposed independent Rights on either Part. Yet as we apprehend it our Duty, under these Difficulties, and in all Circumstances, to contribute whatever lies in our Power towards preserving or restoring this Harmony, we have referred that Part of the Governor's Message to be considered independent of the Royal Commands, and other pressing Affairs recommended to us at this Time, in order that no seperate Interests of our own, which can possibly be avoided, may interfere with the Common Good of these his Majesty's Colonies on the Continent of *America*.

Under these Considerations we have deliberately considered the other Matters contained in the Governor's Messages, and Letters to which they refer, in which we cannot but observe some Differences between the Royal Orders, signified by the Earl of *Holdernesses's* Letter, as well as the Letter from the Lords of Trade, of the Eighteenth of *September* last, and the Light in which the Governor is pleased to represent them in his Message of the Fourteenth Instant, for which Reason we shall undoubtedly stand excused if we recur to the Letters themselves for the Rule of our Conduct in this great Affair.

The Earl of *Holdernesse*, in his Letter of the Twenty-eighth of *August* last, has very minutely and precisely directed the several Steps to be taken, and the Cautions to be used by the Governor of the Colonies, in regard to their own Defence, or when called upon by the neighbouring Provinces, or any others of his Majesty's Colonies, for their mutual Assistance in Support of the general Interest of the *British* Domonions on the Continent; in which, as it is his Majesty's Determination not to be the Aggressor, they are most strictly commanded and enjoined, not to make Use of an armed Force, excepting within the undoubted Limits of his Dominions, and in that Case, under such Restrictions only as are particularly set forth in the Royal Order.

As it would be highly presumptuous in us to pretend to judge of the undoubted Limits of his Majesty's Dominions on the Continent, so neither ought we to fix the Boundaries of this Province, beyond which, we apprehend, our own Forces are strictily enjoined by no means to act as Principles, especially as the Governor has not been pleased to furnish us with any Materials for that Enquiry, were we so inclined, or were we the proper Judges; nor has he made the necessary Requisition, or called upon us to resist any hostile Attempts made upon any Part of his Majesty's Dominions within this Government, but to grant such a Supply as might enable him to raise Forces, to be ready to join those of *Virginia* early in *March*, upon *Potowmack*. Under these Circumstances. we hope the Governor will concur with us, the most prudent Part will be to wait the Result of the Government of *Virginia*. as there is no Provision yet made there, so far as we know, for the raising any Forces on this Occasion; nor in *Maryland*. their neighbouring Colony, or *New-Jersey*, equally engaged in the general Interest of the *British* Dominions on this Continent, though the Governors have called upon their respective Assemblies for that Purpose, in Pursuance of the Royal Command signified to them in the circular Letter from the Earl of *Holdernesse*, as above; and this Caution, we presume, is more especially becoming us, as it is well known the Assemblies of this Province are generally composed of a Majority who are conscientiously principled against War, and represent a well-meaning peaceable People, deeply sensible of the great Favours, Protection and Privileges they enjoy under the present Royal Family, and therefore ready and willing to demonstrate their Duty and Loyalty, by giving such Sums of Money to the King's Use, upon all suitable Occasions as may consist with our Circumstances, or can be reasonably expected from so young a Colony.

By the Accounts now before us, we find we have contracted a Debt of about *Fourteen Hundred Pounds*, for Presents to the *Indians*, and other Charges arising from the late Treaty held at *Carlisle*, which we shall discharge chearfully, notwithstanding our Proprietaries refuse to contribute any Part of our *Indian* Expences, which have increased upon us exceedingly within these few Years; nevertheless we return our

Acknowledgements to the Governor for his Care and prudent Conduct on that Occasion ,as well as to the Gentlemen who, under the Governor's Commission, held the Treaty at that critical Juncture, to our Satisfaction, and, we hope, not only to our own, but to the general Interest of these Colonies, by demonstrating to our *Indian* Allies the good Faith with which the Subjects of *Great-Britain* fulfill their Treaties, and the ready Assistance they may depend on under their Wants and Necessities.

The Letter from the Lords of Trade having left both the Time and Place of holding a Treaty with the *Six Nations*, to the Governor of *New-York*, he has thought fit to appoint it to be held at Albany, on the Thirteenth or Fourteenth of *June* next, as the Governor has been pleased to inform us: However inconvenient it may appear to us to hold our Treaties with the *Indians* at *Albany*, yet as all his Majesty's Colonies, whose Interest and Security are connected with, or depend upon the *Six Nations*, are invited to join in this Interview, if the Governor should think it may be for the Interest or Advantage of this Province, to appoint Commissioners to be joined with those of the other Governments on this Occasion, we shall be willing to make the proper Provision for that Purpose, together with a small Present; but as we have been already at so considerable an Expence at our late Treaty, it cannot be expected, nor do we apprehend it would answer any good Purpose, to make it very large at this Time.

We are now to join with the Governor, in be wailing the miserable Situation of our *Indian* Trade, carried on (some few excepted) by the vilest of our own Inhabitants, and Convicts imported from *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, by which Means the *English* Nation is unhappily represented among our *Indian* Allies in the most disagreeable Manner. These trade without Control, either beyond the Limits, or at least beyond the Power of our Laws, debauching the *Indians* and themselves with spirituous Liquors, which they now make, in a great Measure, the principal Article of their Trade, in direct Violation of our Laws, supplied, as we are informed, by some of the Magistrates who hold a Commission under this Government, and other Inhabitants of our back Counties. These Laws now in Force, if duly put in Execution, we hope, would in a great Measure redress the Grievances complained of; but that no Endeavours may be wanting on our Part, we have appointed a Committee to consider if any Thing further in our Power can be done to remedy these Evils, and to bring in a Bill accordingly."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of House;

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *Calvin Cooper* wait upon the Governor and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would consider it, and return an Answer to the House if he found it required one.

A Letter from the Agent, just received, was laid before the House by one of the Committee of Correspondence, and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary.

SIR,

"The Governor desires to have those Papers returned to him, which were sent down with his Message of the Fourteenth Instant; and if the House should have any further Occasion for them, they shall be sent down again."

And the said Papers being accordingly delivered to the Secretary, by Order of the House, he withdrew.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary.

SIR,

"The Governor commands me to acquaint the House, that observing among the Minutes of the last Assembly a Paper which he apprehended to be highly injurious to his Character, he had prepared an Answer thereto, which he would have laid before them at the Beginning of the Sessions, but being unwilling, for any private Consideration of his own, to divert the Attention of the House from the important Matters he then recommended to them, he has delayed it till this Time, when he understants they have not much business before them."

And the Secretary being withdrawn, the written Message he brought down from the Governor was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

UPON perusing the printed Minutes of your House of the Eleventh of *September* last, I find myself published to the

World in so injurious a Light, merely for having paid Obedience to an Instruction from his Majesty, that I must not, in Duty to the King, as well as Justice to my own Character, suffer it to pass without some Animadversion. And although you may not think yourselves accountable for the Conduct of a former Assembly, yet as the present House is made up of a great Majority of the same Members that composed the last, I shall not make any Apology for addressing myself to you as the Authors of the undeserved as well as unprovoked Treatment I complain of.

The Paper I refer to is the Report of a Committee of Assembly, appointed to consider my Message of the Seventh of *September*, unanimously approved by the House; in which Report are pretty plainly contained the following Insinuations and Charges against me, *viz.*

"That I have not paid the same Regard to the Requests of your House as my Predecessor did to the Sentiments of a former Assembly, on the like Occasion.

That I have acted in direct Disobedience to an Instruction from his late Majesty of the Year 1723.

That I have kept your Bill, the only Bill of that Year till your last Sessions, without intimating in the least that I apprehended myself bound by an additional Instruction to Governor *Thomas* in the Year 1740.

That I contend for, and have actually assumed a Power over the King's Instruction, to remember or forget, to enforce or relax them, as it suits my Humour or my Purpose."

With regard to the First; you are pleased to say, that it is clear to you, that both Governor *Thomas*, and the House too agree in the essential Point, *viz.* That the additional Instruction was binding upon neither of them. And that the Assembly, by making Use of the Distinction of ordinary and extraordinary Cases, did convince him, that the Instruction was not to be submitted to on its own Terms; and therefore, by giving his Assent to an Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, in direct Opposition to the King's Instruction, he shewed a greater Regard to the Sentiments of that Assembly than you had any Reason to believe I have to the repeated Requests of your House.

There is something in this Paragraph that appears to me very remarkable; and although I would not willingly harbour a Suspicion, that the Representative Body of a whole Province would condescend to make Use of any Degree of Artifice (so unworthy even of private Men) to mistead the Understandings of the People, merely with a View to asperse me, yet to me it has so much of that Appearance, that I must take Leave to examine the Fact upon which those Assertions are founded.

In the Year 1746, the late Governor, by his Majesty's Order, called upon the Assembly for a sufficient Quantity of Provisions for the Subsistence of the Troops to be raised here for the Reduction of *Canada*. In Answer to which, the House acquaints him, that they are willing to give a Sum of Money for the King's Use; but, upon Enquiry, find, that neither the Treasury nor Loan-Office are furnished with such a Quantity beyond the other Exigencies of Government, as they are willing to give; and therefore propose the Striking a further Sum of Paper Money, to be placed out at Interest, in like Manner as are the other Bills of Credit, current by a former Act, by which Means the Sum to be given might be repaid by the Interest of the Bills so lent out.

In Answer to this, the Governor, by Message of the Thirteenth of *June*, tells them that he wishes it were as much in his Power as it is in his Inclination to agree with them in the Method by them proposed for raising it. But that they must be sensible, from the *Royal Instruction*, communicated to a former Assembly, that he was forbid, under Pain of his Majesty's highest Displeasure, from passing any Act for striking Bills of Credit, without a Clause restraining its Operation until the King's Pleasure should be known.

In Reply to this Message, the Assembly acquaint him, that they are willing to hope that, upon re-considering the Royal Instruction, he may think himself at Liberty to give his Assent to a Bill for striking a further Sum of Money in Bills of Credit when any extraordinary Emergency requires it.

Hereupon the Governor, by Message of the Fourteenth of *June*, again acquaints them, that he really does not want Inclination to oblige them in any Thing they can reasonably desire; and therefore his Mortification is the greater, to be pressed upon a Point he is not at Liberty to comply with; the King's Instruction, founded on the Addresses of the Houses of Lords and Commons, being so positive, that he cannot bring himself to such a Pitch of Boldness as to contravene it; and promises himself, upon due Consideration of his being thus circumstanced, the House will proceed to some less *exceptionable Method* of raising the Sum designed to be granted for the King's Use.

On Receipt of this Message, the House, finding the Governor was not to be warped from his Obedience to the Royal Instruction, immediately proceeded to pass a Bill for giving

Five Thousand Pounds for the Use of the King, to be paid out of the Bills of Credit remaining in the Loan-Office for exchanging torn and ragged Bills, and for striking and emitting other Bills to the same Value, to be sunk by a Tax in Ten Years, which Bill was afterwards enacted into a Law.

I should now be glad to know, Gentlemen, upon this State of the Fact, which is taken from your own Minutes, what are the Proofs that have made it clear to you, that the late Governor agreed that the King's Instruction was not binding upon him, that he acted in direct Opposition to it, since the very contrary is evident, as well from the whole Tenor of his Messages as from his Perseverance in refusing to consent to to a Bill upon the usual Terms, as the Assembly requested it (that is) without the suspending Clause; although, as an inducement thereto, the House intimated to him an Intention they had of making an Addition to the *Five Thousand Pounds* already voted, which they well knew was like to prove as pervailing an Argument with him as any they could make Use of. It is true, he did, against the strict Letter of the Instruction, give his Assent to a Bill for striking *Five Thousand Pounds*, to replace what had been given for the King's Use; but upon due Consideration, it must be obvious to every one, that the true and genuine Intention of that Instruction could relate only to Emissions on common and ordinary Occasions, by Means whereof. the Evils and Inconveniences specified in the Body of the Instruction had arisen; and to prevent which for the future, appears clearly to have been the sole End and Purpose of the Instruction. If again, on the other Hand, it be considered, that the Sum emitted in this Province, by Virtue of the Act of 1746, was very small, and occasioned by a very real Emergency; that the same was appropriated solely to his Majesty's Use, and that the Whole of it was to be sunk in short Space of Time by Taxes, and without there being the least Probability of its producing any of the Inconviences complained of: We must necessarily allow, that the late Governor (however he might disregard the strict Letter) never departed from the Spirit and Intention of the Instruction; and therefore cannot properly be charged with having acted in direct Opposition to it: For it would be an Absurdity too glaring to suppose that any Government would voluntarily tie up the Hands of its Subjects from serving it, by such Means as they are able, in Cases of great Emergency; and that this could never have been any Part of his Majesty's Intention, or that of the Parliament, in addressing him, is further evident from the late Act respecting the Four *Eastern*

Governments, who, although prohibited on common and ordinary Occasions, yet, in Cases of real Emergency, are permitted to issue Bills of Credit, on Condition that sufficient Funds be provided for sinking the same in a short Space of Time, which was exactly the Case with respect to the Sum emitted by the Governor and Assembly of this Province.

Having, I hope, incontestably proved, that the true and real Intention of the Royal Instruction, could have been no other than to guard against the Abuses enumerated in the Body of it, and that the Act for granting, *Five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, passed by the late Governor, in 1746, being of a singular and quite different Nature from Acts passed upon ordinary Occasions, could not therefore be comprehended within the Meaning of the said Instruction; I proceed now to ask the Gentlemen of the Assembly, whether the Distinctions between an Act for emitting a larger Sum of Money on a common and ordinary Occasion, the Interest of which the Country is to reap the whole Benefit of, to be current for a long Term of Time without Diminution, and an Act directly the Reverse of this in all Respects, did never occur to them? If these Distinctions did occur to them, and it is next to impossible that they should not, I ask them again, with what Degree of Candour they could affect to consider them as one and the same Case? And thence take Occasion to charge me, with having less Inclination to oblige the People under my Government, than my Predecessor. Did the House ever offer me a Bill of any thing like the Tenor of that of 1746, that I refused my Assent to? I am persuaded they will not say it: How then is it possible they should know, that, upon a like Occasion, I should be less willing than my Predecessor to oblige them.

Secondly, With regard to the additional Instruction of the Twenty-third of *July*, 1723, I have this to alledge for myself, that, previous to my Message of the Seventh of *September*, I had caused the Minutes of Council, and all the Papers in that Office, to be very carefully inspected, without being able to discover the least Footsteps of that or any other Instruction to the like Purpose. And as I had never heard of any such being directed to the Governors of this Province, I may reasonably claim some Excuse, destitute as I was of the Means of Information, for having presumed (for in Reality it is but a Presumption) that no Instruction of that Kind had been at any Time sent here: Yet, when the House, without the least Occasion given by me, departs from that Decency, both of Matter and Language, which they must be sensible ought inviolably to be observed between the different Branches of the Legislature; and, instead of imparting to me the Information they were possessed of, touching the Matter in Controversy, go on to utter Reflections and Insinuations of a most invidious Nature, I am afraid they will stand in Need of greater Allowances for their Conduct than even a good-natured Man may be willing to make. Pray, Gentlemen, if I have even asserted, which I did not, that no Instruction like that of the Year 1723, had ever been directed to the Governor of this Province, would it have been any great Stretch of your Charity to have supposed me, as I really was, ignorant of it? Or would it have been unbecoming the Honour of your House, to one in my Station, to have enquired into the Truth of the Matter, before you had proceeded to charge me in Print, for I can call it no less,

With remembering or not remembering a Royal Instruction, as it best suited my Purpose.

With having purposely forgot the Instruction of 1723, although possessed of the Original (which is not true) because it did not suit My Purpose, and remembering that of the Year 1740, because it did.

With having little Regard to the Liberties and Privileges of the People under my Government, though you are not able to give an Instance wherein I have infringed them.

With having totally disregarded the Lords Justices Instruction of 1723, which at that Time I had never seen or heard of."

Or is my Character so notorious with you for Falsehood and Dissimulation, that any involuntary Mistakes, by me committed, would not have admitted of a milder Construction than you have been pleased to put upon them? If I have given you Reason to entertain this Opinion of me, you will be the better justified in having censured so severely: But if, on the contrary, I have ever acted with Integrity and good Faith towards all the Assemblies that have met during my Administration, then, I must needs tell you, that you have been vastly deficient in that Charity and Benevolence which, as Members of Society, we mutually owe to one another, was well as extremely cruel to yourselves; since upon what other Principle, than that of Charity, can you hope to be excused for having positively asserted in your Message of the Fifth of *September*, that there never had been a single Instance of the passing any Law, under the Restrictions contended for by me, from the first Settlement of the Province to that Day, when, in turning to our own Book of Laws, you might have satisfied yourselves, that, in an Act prescribing the Forms of Declaration, *&c.* the suspending Clause is inserted in the fullest Manner? And yet I sincerely declare, that I never thought otherwise of this, than as of a Mistake you had fallen into through Precipitation, and a Zeal for the Cause you had in Hand, without ever thinking I might be justified in insinuating that you either willingly told an Untruth, or that you thought yourselves at Liberty to remember or forget the aforesaid Act of Assembly as it best suited the Purpose, in your Controversy with me.

I confess myself at a Loss to understand what is meant by the House in saying, that I have acted in direct Disobedience to the Lords Justices Instructions of the Year 1723, as on the most careful Recollection, I cannot call to Mind the having passed any Act that can possibly fall within the Meaning of that Instruction (which relates alone to private Acts concerning Lands and Messuages) since my Accession to this Government. Yet, even supposing that to have been the Case, I may, with some Appearance of Reason expect to be pardoned; since it is hoped, that none can be so unjust as to construe that a wilful Disobedience, which arose entirely from my Ingnorance of there being any such Instruction, after taking the utmost Pains to be informed.

I acknowledge, Gentlemen, you have now shewn me that such an Instruction does subsist; and am extremely glad to hear you at last declare it to be your Opinion (however contradictory to many Parts of your Message and Report) that *all Royal Orders and Instructions* subject the Governors to whom they are directed, and their Successors too, to the Royal Displeasure, unless such Instructions, are revoked by his Majesty's Authority. If then, as you justly say, all Royal Orders and Instructions, unrevoked, are binding upon the Governors to whom they are directed. and their Successors too, why is so much Resentment shown on your Part, on Account of my having paid Obedience to those Instructions, which, by your own Acknowledgement, I am bound to pay, under Pain of his Majesty's Displeasure? Upon this Declaration of yours, I will once more appeal to your own Breasts, with regard to the Reasonableness of your requesting me to disregard those Instructions, at the certain Disadvantage of incurring his Majesty's Displeasure, and perhaps to the Injury of my private Fortune, and Loss of Character. And if (as you seem to suppose) the King, by having passed the Paper Money Act laid before him in 1751, has judged all the Purposes of that Instruction to be answered, can there be a more favourable Season than the present to apply to his Majesty for a Revocation of it? Or by whom can the Application be so properly made as by the People's Representatives, who look upon their Constituents to be most aggrieved by it, since, by your own Acknowledgement, no Governor can dispence with paying Obedience to it, until revoked, but at the Risk of incurring his Majesty's Displeasure? Which it is very improbable any Governor will be hardy enough to do.

Thirdly, You are pleased to say, that I have kept your Bill, the only Bill of that Year, till your last Sessions, without intimating in the least, that I apprehend myself bound by an additional Instruction to Governor *Thomas*, in the Year 1740.

Had I been invested, Gentlemen, with a Power to direct the Assembly how many Bills they should prepare and offer to me in any one Year, and had made Use of that Power to limit or restrain them to the particular Bill in Question, in Exclusion of all others, there might have been some Reason for their having laid such Stress upon the Words, *only Bill*. But as it is well known, that no Governor is, or ought to be possessed of such a Power, and that the Assembly is at full Liberty to prepare and offer so many Bills, and of such Sort, as appear to them expedient, without the least Check or Control from any Body, to whose Account ought the Fault to be charged (if in Truth it be a Fault) that it was the only Bill of that Year? To mine, who neither had nor claimed any Authority to interfere at all in their Proceedings? Or to theirs, who, although invested with the Power, yet upon that Occasion declined to make Use of it? That I kept your Bill from the Month of *May* to the Month of *August* following, in order the better to consider it, is very true; nor will you deny that I had an unquestionable Right so to do; but how could that possibly interfere with your preparing Blils to be passed into Laws in the Months of *January* and *February* preceding, which is known to be the usual Time of the Assembly's Sitting to do Business here? Or to what Purpose should I have intimated to you any thing respecting that Instruction till the Bill came before you again upon my Amendments? At which Time, I had so little Apprehension of your objecting to the Validity of that Instruction, that I looked on the Bill as good as passed: and that not only the Members of Assembly, but every Inhabitant the least conversant in public Affairs, were acquainted with that standing Instruction.

Fourthly, That I contend for, and have actually assumed a Power over the King's Instructions, to remember or forget, to enforce or relax them as it suits my Humour or my Purpose.

I am sorry, Gentlemen, you should have spent so much Time and Labour in endeavouring to find out the Meaning of what appears to me a very plain and artless Sentence, in my Message of the Seventh of *September*, and which must have appeared equally plain to you, had it been read with the same candid Disposition with which it was wrote. Let us examine the Words themselves, and the Occasion of their being used, as from thence we shall see whether they will bear the Interpretation you have been pleased to put upon them. The Assembly, in their Message of the Fifth of *September*, made Use of several Arguments to prove that the King's Instructions either never was, or that the Ends of it having been answered, it could no longer be binding on the Governors of this Province; and therefore hoped I would think myself not at all concerned therein, and pass their Bill as it then stood; that is, in direct Opposition to the King's Instruction. But as I had not the good Fortune to be convinced by their Arguments, and as it would have been highly impertinent in me, to have entered into a Vindication of what had been advised by the two Houses of Parliament, and assented to by his Majesty, I concluded, with telling them in my Answer, that they would certainly allow me to judge for myself of the Necessity I was under of paying Obedience to the King's Instruction, when a Disregard of it was threatened with his Majesty's highest Displeasure; the Meaning of which Sentence can be no other than this, that as I was threatened with the King's highest Displeasure, in case I disobeyed his Instruction; therefore they must allow me to judge for myself, between the Force of the Arguments by them adduced to invalidate the said Instruction, and my own Opinion of its continuing to bind me.

It is impossible any other Construction can be fairly put upon these Words: And yet the Assembly, by having in the first Place taken something for granted, which in itself is absolutely without Foundation; and in the next, by perverting the clear Meaning and common Sense of my Words, have plainly insinuated, as if I contended for, and actually assumed a Power over the King's Instructions, to remember or forget, to enforce or relax them, just as it suited my Humour or my Purposes. This, Gentlemen, among many others, is such an Instance of Unfairness, as astonishes me; and could, in my Opinion, have proceeded from nothing less than a determined Resolution to differ with me; and which (could I prevail on myself to break the Rules I have prescribed for my Conduct with regard to Gentlemen in your Station) would require, as it justly merits, the sharpest Return.

Added to these, you have, I observe, upon several Occasions, given it as your Opinion, that I am restricted by Proprietary Instructions, as well as those from the Crown. How consistent it may be with the Rules of Parliamentary Proceedings, to take Notice of any thing respecting me, which does not come properly before you from myself, I leave you to judge: But I am persuaded, that had I administered the like Occasion of Complaint to you, you would not have been backward in charging me with a Breach of your Privileges. Did any of the Amendments proposed to the Paper Money Bill, look as if they had been dictated by Proprietary Instructions? Or was any thing offered on my Part, but what was common in your former Acts; except what I was obliged to add, in Consequence of the King's Instruction? With which had you then acquiesced, 'tis more than probable your Bill would by this Time have received the Royal Sanction, and you have been put in Possession of what you appear so solicitous about.

I must not, however, omit to return you my Thanks in Behalf of the Proprietaries, for the Regard you are pleased to express for their Rights, in your Resolve relating to the Royal Instruction; and equal Concern for all their other Rights, as they come occasionally before you, cannot fail of receiving their just Acknowledgements, and of entitling the People you represent, to all the Favours and Benefits they are capable of bestowing.

Having gone through what appeared worthy of Observation in the Report, I now proceed to enquire what Part of my Conduct can have given Occasion to such Resentment as to induce you to lay aside those Rules of Civility so constantly practised by Legislative Bodies, and to treat me in a Manner, which nothing less than an actual Invasion of your Liberties and Privileges, or some other notable Provocation can ever justify; and which, were I to imitate, by giving the same free Scope to my Passions, I leave you to judge, how the public Business could be carried on.

Was there any thing either in the Manner of Matter of my Message, that necessarily called upon you for such Return? I am persuaded you will acquit me of that.

But you say you have no other Method to secure yourselves from future Insinuations, *&c.* but by leaving your Sentiments, *&c.* on your Minutes in the clearest Manner you are able. I agree with you, Gentlemen, that if you apprehend the Interest of your Constituents might be injured by your Silence, the Design was highly laudable. But was it ever known that an Argument lost any thing of its Force by being handled in a modest and decent Manner? Or could you not have left your Sentiments, *&c.* on your Minutes, without uttering the most injurious Insinuations against me? You must be sensible, other Governors and Assemblies have differed in Opinion, upon Points nearly of the same Nature with this; but have those Assemblies therefore behaved to their Governors, as if it was a Crime in them to have been charged with Instructions from the King? Or proceeded to insinuate, because they thought themselves obliged to yield Obedience to those Instructions, that therefore they had no Regard to the Liberties and Privileges of the People? Or that it was evident, the good People, or their Representatives, were not to expect to have any Influence over their Governors, on that, or any other Occasion? I am persuaded, Gentlemen, you will not be able to find a similar Instance on so slight an Occasion, in the Records of any Assembly in his Majesty's Dominions, and consequently that the Report of your Committee is a Paper of the first Impression.

Had I been an Enemy to the Liberties and Privileges of the People, or been desirous of gratifying my own Passions at their Expence, it must be confessed you have furnished me with the fairest Occasion a Governor so disposed could possibly have wished for. For Example: you have voted a Clause, proposed to be added to your Bill by his Majesty's express Direction, at the Request of his two Houses of Parliament, to be destructive to the Liberties of the People of this Province, *&c.* and have even threatened to examine the Validity of the King's Instruction, if by a Perserverance in my Opinion, I laid you under the Necessity of doing it. What is this less than declaring that the Lords and Commons, and his Majesty's Privy Council, consisting, among others, of the most eminent Lawyers in *Great-Britain*, have requested, and his Majesty enjoined, an Act directly contrary to Law?

If then, in Consequence of the Indignation you cannot but suppose me to have conceived at finding myself so unworthily used, for no Cause given on my Part, I had transmitted to his Majesty's Ministers, a Representation or Complaint of the forementioned Proceedings, aggravated with all the invidious Constructions of which they are capable, and which an abused or provoked Man might think himself well justified in making Use of, can you think the Conduct you held upon that Occasion would contribute any thing to the better recommending you to his Majesty's Favour? Or might it not rather tend to encrease the Jealousies and Suspicions already too easily entertained of these Colonies by our Superiors; and perhaps terminate finally in an Act to compel Obedience, not to one, but all Instructions from his Majesty? Which I hope will never be the Case, though you must be sensible it has more than once been meditated by Gentlemen of great Weight and Authority in the *British* Parliament.

But if, on the contrary, all this has been avoided, and I have endeavoured to suppress, as much as in me lay, any Resentment by which the Public may be affected, in Hopes of a more dispassionate Behaviour on your Part for the future, I flatter myself with having done the People of this Province as effecutal a good Service by my Moderation, as you, by all the Zeal and Warmth you have expressed upon the Occasion.

March 1, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to inspect the Accounts of the Provincial Hospital, *&c.* made a Report in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

WE, the Committee appointed to view and consider the Accounts of the Provincial Hospital, laid before the House by the Managers of the said Hospital, do report, that we have accordingly considered them, and find that the General Accounts of the said Hospital, from the Beginning to the Fifth of *Fifth Month*, 1753, stand thus:

Dr. *The Stock given by Law for founding, building and furnishing the Provincial Hospital,* Cr.

To real Securities in the Treasurer's Hands, for sundry Sums lent out on Interest	£1850 0 0	By two Orders drawn by the Speaker of the Assembly, and paid	£2000 0 0
To House-rent and Furniture to this Date,	185 10 5	By sundry Sums received for Interest Money lent, ...	67 0 0
	£2035 10 5		£2067 0 0
Balance due to the Stock,	31 9 7		
	£2067 0 0		

Dr. *The Capital Stock of the Provincial Hospital.* Cr.

Dr.		Cr.	
To 60 Bonds given by sundry Subscribers, amounting to	£1454 16 8	By One Hundred and Thirty-five Subscriptions, amounting in the Whole to *Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-one Pounds, Sixteen Shillings and Eight-pence*, ...	£2751 16 8
To Sundry Subscriptions, for which Bonds are not yet given.	335 0 0		
To real Securities in the Treasurer's Hands, for sundry Sums lent out on Interest, ...	800 0 0		
To an Annuity of *Thirty-five Shillings Sterl. per Annum*, issuing out of a Lot of Land on *Cedar-Street*, given by *Joseph Wharton*, in Lieu of his Subscription,	50 0 0		
To a Lot of Land in the *Northern Liberties*, given by *Matthias Hoplin*, as a Subscription, ..	24 0 0		
	£2663 16 8		
Balance due to the Capital Stock, ...	88 0 0		
	£2751 16 8		

Dr. *The Maintenance of the* Pennsylvania *Hospital.* Cr.

To Expences of Housekeeping, Fire-wood and Wages, from the Beginning to this Date, ..	£300 13 9¾	By Interest-money received to this Date,	£121 11 6
		By sundry Sums received, for boarding Patients on Pay,	80 11 4
		By a Donation from *B. F.'s* Charity-Box,	1 10 0
			£203 12 10
		Balance expended more than received, ...	97 0 11¾
			£300 13 9¾

We also report, that by the List of Patients we find, that from the Eleventh of *Second Month*, 1752, to the Fourth of *Fifth Month*, 1753, there were Sixty-four Patients received into the Hospital, afflicted with Lunacy, and various other Disorders which required the Conveniences of such a Place; of which Number Thirty-two were cured and discharged, and some others received considerable Relief. We likewise report, that we have visited the Hospital, and find a considerable Number of distempered Patients there, who are well taken Care of, and the Whole appears to us to be under very regular and good Management, and likely to answer the original Design. All which we submit to the House.

JOSEPH TROTTER, JAMES WRIGHT,
WILLIAM CALLENDER, JOHN ARMSTRONG,
MAHLON KIRKBRIDE, MOSES STARR."
GEORGE ASHBRIDGE,

The House taking into Consideration the Governor's Message of this Morning;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joshua Morris*, *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright*, *John Armstrong* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to consider the said Message, and report at the next Sitting of Assembly, whether they think it concerns or needs any Answer from the House.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to examine *George Croghan's* Account, exhibited to the House on the Twenty-first of last Month, reported, that they were of Opinion, he ought to be allowed the Sum of *Seventy-three Pounds, Two Shillings*, being the Balance of his said Account; to which the House assenting, an Order was drawn on the Treasurer for Payment of the same, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Seventy-nine Pounds. One Shilling and Four-pence* be now allowed to *Andrew Montour*, in full for his Expences and Trouble in the Service of this Government to the present Day.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House a written Message, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'IN all Transactions with the Assemblies of this Province since my Accession to the Government, I have constantly endeavoured to confine myself within the undoubted and well known Limits of the Powers entrusted to me by my Commission, without ever designedly attempting the least Infraction or Invasion of the Privileges of your House. That the Right of refusing my Assent to any Bill offered me by the Assembly, without assigning Reasons, is incident to the Station I have at present the Honour to fill, I am persuaded you will not deny, inasmuch as the same has not only been frequently exercised by my Predecessors, without any complaint from the Assemblies on that Account, but has also been expressly acknowledged by them to be so in the fullest and plainest Words.

I hope never to be justly chargeable with using the Powers I am invested with in a wanton or extravagant Manner; and therefore, as I do not conceive myself to be accountable to you for my Conduct on the present Occasion, I cannot but look on your having taken Notice of it in the Way you have done to be a good deal more *unusual and unprecedented* than the Practice complained of.

If I rightly know myself, I may venture to say, that no Man in my Station has ever been more desirous or taken more Pains than myself to establish and preserve Peace and Harmony between the several Branches of the Legislature, as well as throughout the whole Province; and I am still ready to contribute every Thing in my Power to so good a Purpose. consistent with my Honour, and the Trust reposed in me. But if, in order to restore and preserve this Harmony, it be expected that I should make a Sacrifice of any of the Rights of Government, or part with my negative Voice, with respect to all Bills that may be laid before me, I shall look upon the Purchase, however desirable in itself, as made at too dear a Rate; being firmly of Opinion, that such a Change in the Constitution would be productive of more real Mischiefs and Inconviences to the Province, than are to be apprehended from any temporary Disagreement between a Governor and Assembly. I would not here be understood to mention this as a Thing you have actually and in express Terms demanded of me; yet upon the most careful Review of all that has passed, I am not able to discover any other Cause for the for the Interruption of that Harmony which, for several Years subsisted between us, and for the late indecent Treatment I have received, in a Paper published by your House, than my having refused to pass some Favourite Bills upon your own Terms. If this then should have been the Case, what is it less in Effect, than endeavouring to intimidate me from exercising my Judgment upon such Bills as come before me in my Legislative Capacity, under Pain of incurring your sharpest Resentment; and consequently to deprive me of the Negative invested in me by the Constitution.

But waving every Thing of an inferior Nature, I proceed to that Part of your Message, of the Twenty-seventh of last Month, wherein you are pleased to say, you observe some Differences between the Royal Commands signified in Lord *Holderness's* Letter, and the Light in which I represent them in my Message of the Fourteenth Instant. If there was any Defect in the Form of my calling upon you for such Supplies as might enable me to do what his Majesty has enjoined to be done, in Case of any hostile Attempts upon any Part of his Majesty's Dominions, namely, to repel Force by Force, I would willingly have hoped, that your Duty to his Majesty would rather have induced you to supply any Omission of mine in that Respect, especially as every Means of Information I was possessed of was laid before you, than that you would have attempted to elude the Force of a Demand made upon you by his Majesty's express Orders, by such an Evasion, as that of my not having done it in the very Words of Lord *Holdernesse's* Letter. The Words of my Message are so full, and though not a bare Repetition of his Lordship's, yet so very agreeable to them in their Sense and Meaning, that it is impossible you should have understood them in any other Light than as referring to Lord *Holderness's* Letter, especially as that Letter then lay upon your Table: However, as I find you have in some Measure made that a Pretence for not complying with my Demand made upon you by his Majesty's Order, I desire you will please now to be informed, that I have undoubted Assurance that Part of his Majesty's Dominions, within my Government, is at this Time invaded by the Subjects of a Foreign Prince, who have erected Forts within the same: And further, that you will take Notice, that I do now call upon you, pursuant to his Majesty's Orders, in the present Emergency, to grant such Supplies as may enable me to draw forth the armed Force of the Province, in order to resist these hostile Attempts, and to repel Force by Force.

But you are pleased further to say, that you ought not to fix the bounds of this Province; and that if you had been so inclined, I had not furnished you with any Materials for the Enquiry—Pray, Gentlemen, did you ever ask me to furnish you with Materials for this particular Enquiry? If you did not, which I aver to be the Case, whence the Insinuation as if I had omitted to furnish you with all the Means of Information that were in my Power? Was it possible for any Body to think you could have been so unconcerned about a Matter of such vast Consequence, as an Invasion of his Majesty's Dominions (which was so strongly represented to you in my Messages as being very near to us) without making an Enquiry touching the Place and Situation where these Hostilities were said to be committed; or whether the same was or was not within the Limits of our own Province, especially as you might so easily have satisfied yourselves in that Point by the Papers laid before you, and the Persons you had under Examination? By these it would have appeared to you, that *Logs-Town* the Place where the *French* propose to have their Head Quarters, is not at the Distance of five Degrees of Longitude from the River *Delaware*, and not to the Southward of fifteen Statute Miles *South* of this City; and that the Course of the *Ohio*, from that Place to *Weningo*, which the *French* have taken Possession of, and from whence they have driven away our Traders, is to the *North-east*, and consequently nearer to us. It is likewise well known, that a Person apprehended for committing a Murder at *Shanoppin*, which lies still *South* of *Logs-Town*, was tried in the Supreme Court at *Philadelphia*, and the Evidence of the Place being within the Limits of this Province was so clear to the Court and Jury, that he was convicted of Manslaughter, and suffered his Punishment accordingly. Upon this Ocasion I must needs tell you, Gentlemen, that if you really did make this Enquiry, and received Satisfaction therein, your Suppression of the Truth is extremely disingenious with regard to me; and that if you did not make it, I can impute the Neglect to no other Cause, than a Desire to have a plausible Excuse for not paying a proper Regard to his Majesty's Commands.

I did not expect to have had it objected to me, as a Failure in Duty, that I did not make the Requisition mentioned in Lord *Holderness's* Letter, by Gentlemen of your Persuasion: You must be all sensible that I have ever been extremely tender with Regard to that Point; and have upon all Occasions avoided pressing you importunately upon Matters about which I knew you to have any Scruples; and therefore thought it a lucky Circumstance that Governor *Dinwiddie* undertook the Task of making the Requisition, which otherwise I should have been obliged to do, in Obedience to his Majesty's Commands, being sensible that the Hostilities complained of were committed within our own Province. Had I made the Requisition, would it not, in Effect, have been setting this Province in the Front of the Opposition? And had you afterwards refused to grant Supplies for repelling these Invaders, would it not have exposed us to the Contempt and Derision, as well of the *French* as our *Indian* Allies? But the Requisition is now made by one of his Majesty's Governor, and you have seen the Answer of the *French* Commander, avowing these Hostilities.

You have likewise seen in the late Treaty of *Carlisle* the Answers of the *French* Commanders to the Requisitions made by the *Indians* of the *Five Nations*, whom the King of *France*, in the Treaty of *Utrecht*, an Extract whereof was laid before you, acknowledges to be subject to the Dominion of *Great-Britain;* wherein these *French* Officers declare they have the Orders of the King their Master to oppose them, and every one else, who should obstruct their making themselves Masters of that Country. And now these *Indians*, reduced as they are to the last Necessity, most earnestly beseech us, in Consequence of the Treaties made by them with this and others of his Majesty's Colonies, to build Places of Refuge, to which their Wives and Families may repair for Safety and Protection; and to send them our Warriors to assist them against these their Enemies, alledging they are too weak to make any considerable Resistance of themselves, and must submit to their superior Force, and lose their Lands and Commerce with us, if we do not send them an armed Force.

What then remains, but that you immediately proceed to grant the necessary Supplies for resisting these hostile Attempts, and thereby set a good Example to the neighbour-Colonies, whose Conduct upon this Occasion ought not to be a Rule for us, who are the Province invaded, and consequently in the most immediate Danger; which if you refuse to do, how can you be said to fulfil our Treaties, and "give the *Indians* the ready Assistance they depend on under their Wants and Necessities?" or how do you "demonstrate your Duty and Loyalty to his Majesty, by giving such Sums of Money for the King's Use upon all suitable Occasions as can be reasonably expected?"

I for my Part have done my Duty, and any ill Consequences that may happen, will not lie at my Door; and therefore, Gentlemen, I earnestly exhort you to do yours, and in every Respect to act up to the high Trust reposed in you, as the Representatives of the People. that when an Account of our Transactions, in Consequence of his Majesty's Orders, shall be laid before our Sovereign, which must necessarily be done, both Parts of the Legislature may receive his Royal Approbation.

That Part of your Message I cannot suffer to pass unobserved, wherein you are pleased to say, that the Proprietaries refuse to contribute any Part of your *Indian* Expences, which have increased upon you exceedingly within a few Years. It is true, they have refused to do so in the Manner you expected, and have given you their Reasons for the Refusal: But you cannot have forgot the Proposal I made to you in 1750 and 1751, by their Order, with respect to the Building a strong Trading-house near the Place now invaded and possessed by the *French;* which generous Offer had you then thought fit to have closed with, all the Mischiefs we now apprehend might have been prevented at a small Expence to the Province, and that Country secured to the *English*, which hereafter to recover will probably be attended with the Loss of many Lives, as well as a heavy Charge to the Country.

I join with you in Opinion, that it is for the Interest and Advantage of the Province, and our indispensable Duty, to send Commissioners to *Albany*, in Concert with those of the other Governments on this Occasion; and I will take Care to appoint suitable Persons for this Purpose, and chearfully concur with you in any proper Bill for the Regulation of the *Indian* Trade.

I will enquire into the Conduct of the Magistrates of *Cumberland* County, which, if found to be as you have set it forth, renders them highly unworthy of the Commission they bear.

March 2, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Message from the Governor of this Morning was again read, and considered, and the further Consideration thereof referred to next *Second-day* in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Governor's Message of the Second Instant was again read, and considered, and after a considerable Debate thereupon, the same was referred to further Consideration To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from *John Pattin*, for his Expences, Trouble and Services, in going to *Allegheny*, in the Service of the Government, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Message from the Governor of the Second Instant, was again read, with the Letter from the Earl of *Holdernesse;* and, after a considerable Debate thereupon;

Ordered, That *Joseph Gibbons* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know if he hath any Thing further to lay before them in Relation to the *Western* Bounds of this Province; and also if he hath received any late Advices from the Governor of *Virginia.*

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would send down to the House To-morrow Morning the several Evidences relating to the *Western* Bounds of *Pennsylvania*, which convinced him that the Hostilities, mentioned in his Message, were committed within this Province, and he made no Doubt but they would be as convincing to the House; and that the Governor was pleased further to say, he had not received any Advices from *Virginia* since those he communicated to the House.

The Petition against Gaming and Gaming-houses was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent thereon;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Dicks* and *James Wright* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in said Petition.

The Petition from *Bucks* and *Lancaster* Counties, relating to the Holding of Supreme Courts, *&c.* being again read, and considered;

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for remedying the Inconveniences complained of in the said Petition, and for making such farther Regulation of the said Court, as they shall judge necessary.

The Petition from the Trustees, Commissioners, and others, of the County of *Cumberland*, praying a Sum of Money to be lent them, for the Building of a Court-house, was again read, and considered, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Petition from *Lancaster* County, relating to the laying out of Townships, *&c.* being again read, and considered;

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender*, *Griffith Owen*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *Calvin Cooper*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to consider the said Petition, and report to the House, at their next Sitting, what they may think necessary to be done therein.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Petition from the County of *Lancaster*, praying a Sum of Money to be given towards building a Bridge over *Conestogoe Creek*, was again read, and considered, and referred to further Consideration.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *Philadelphia* and *Chester* Counties, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners, with sundry others, do hold in common divers Pieces or Parcels of Marsh or Meadow Ground, situated on the River *Delaware*, and the navigable Parts of several Creeks in the said Counties; that some of the Possessors and Occupiers of the said Meadow Ground held in common with the Petitioners, do refuse to uphold and maintain the Frontier Banks, joining on the said River and Creeks, or bear their proportionable Part of the Expence thereof, whereby the Water often overflows and drowns the said Petitioners Meadow Ground, and totally destroys their

Interest therein, which would otherwise be very valuable; they therefore pray this House to take their Case into Consideration, and provide such Remedy for the Grievance complained of, as shall be judged most meet.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary;

SIR,

'The Governor thought to have had the Matters relating to the Information, which the House requested by their Message of Yesternight, ready to send down this Morning, but now finds he cannot do it till the Afternoon."

Then the Secretary withdrew.

The Petition from the Owners of Meadow, on the Road to the *Point-Ferry*, opposite *Gloucester*, was again read, and Leave was granted to the Petitioners to bring in a Bill agreeable to the Prayer of their Petition.

The Petition from *Philadelphia* and *Chester* Counties, relating to the keeping up of Banks on the Sides of the Rivers and Creeks in said Counties, was read a second time, and considered, and the Petitioners have Leave to bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in their Petition.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary;

SIR,

"The Governor now sends down to the House the Grounds on which he founded the Assertion in his Message, that Hostilities are committed by the *French* within the Limits of his Government, and he has directed me to attend with the Vouchers, Draughts, and some Evidences to the same, in Case the House should incline to examine them;" and the Secretary then withdrawing, while the Papers he brought down were read, he was again called in, and desired to lay before the House the several Vouchers and Draughts he had mentioned; which he did accordingly, and then withdrew.

And *William West*, *Andrew Montour* and *John Pattin*, giving their Attendance, were called in, and after confirming the several Things relating to the *Western* Bounds of this Province, which they had set forth in the Papers laid before the House by the Secretary, they were directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Peter Worral*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to take the several Papers sent down by the Governor, concerning the *Western* Bounds of this Province, into their Consideration, and report thereon to the House To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to consider the Papers relating to the *Western* Bounds of this Province, made a Report in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

HAVING carefully considered the several Testimonies, Computations, Maps and Draughts, laid before us, relating to the *Western* Bounds of this Province, we do report,

That it appears to your Committee, by the Testimony of *Richard Peters*, Secretary of this Province and *Nicholas Scull*, Surveyor-General, that the Temporary Line was run in 1739, by *B. Eastburn*, then Surveyor-General, and other Surveyors, on Oath, to the *Kittochtinny* Hills, about three Miles *West* from *Philip David's* Plantation, extending *West* from *Philadelphia* (as measured on the Surface) 144 Miles.

And that the said *Richard Peters*, Esq; doth aver, that he hath travelled from *Aucquick* to *Philip David's*, and made diligent Observation and Enquiry, and that to the best of his knowledge and Belief the Place called *The Three Springs*, is rather Eastward of the Meridian of the End of the Temporary Line, and Thirty Miles *Northward* of the End of said Line.

And that the several computed travelling Distances from the *Three Springs* to *Ohio*, laid before the Committee, are as follows, *viz.*

	Miles
Hugh Crawford and *Andrew Montour*, on their Examination before the Governor, *April* 10, 1752, make the said Road through *Franks-Town* to the *Ohio*, ...	150
William West, who travelled thither in 1752, makes the Road from the *Three Springs*, through *Rays-town*, to *Shanopins-town*, on *Ohio*, ...	145
John Harris, who travelled thither in 1753, makes the *Rays-town* Road, to *Shanopins*, from the said Springs,	148
And the *Franks-town* Road from Ditto, ...	151
John Pattin, just returned, makes the *Rays-town* Road from Ditto, ...	140
Which Computations, nearly agreeing, do, at a Medium, make about	147
To which, the Length of the Temporary Line, ...	144
.... being added, make	291

That by the Certificate of *Theophilus Grew*, and *Nicholas Scull*, Mathematicians, a Degree of Longitude, in Lat. 40. is, Fifty-three Statute Miles, accounting Sixty-nine

Miles and a Half to a Degree of the Equinoctial: and if so, the Extent of this Province, *East* and *West*, in that Latitude, should be but 265

Which is short of the above Sum, ...Miles 26

That all the several Accounts, which speak of the Course of the Road, do agree, that it is very winding and crooked in many Places, to avoid Creeks and Swamps, and very uneven as it passes through a mountainous Country; and *Pattin's* Map of the Road, laid before us, makes it in a straight Line from the *Three Springs* to *Shanopins*, but Eighty-three Miles; which Map, however, we do not understand to have been made from actual Mensurations; but by taking the Course from one known Mountain to another with a Compass, and computing the Distance by the common Methods of Estimation used by Travellers on Horse-back.

Andrew Montour and *John Pattin* say, that the Road is very crooked, and that having, by the Governor's Directions (to the said *Pattin*) observed the Courses and Distances with all the Exactness in their Power, it cannot, in their Judgment, on a straight Line, exceed Eighty-five Miles.

By which Estimation Sixty-two of the travelled Miles are lost in the Crooks between the *Three Springs* and *Shanopins*.

William West saith likewise, that the Road is very crooked, and that in several Places travelling many Miles produces but a few Miles Westing; particularly between the *Shawana* Cabbins and *Kekinnypalins*, computed near Thirty Miles, he thinks would not make more than Ten Miles Westing.

William West farther saith, that an Observation was made of the Latitude of *Shanopins* Town by Colonel *Fry*, who found it to be in 40.26. which is about Forty-one Miles *North* of the Temporary Line.

Upon the Premises, your Committee would observe,

1. That the computed Miles are, as estimated by Travellers, who judge only from the Time taken up in Travelling, and have never been measured; and that the Miles so computed on the Road from the *Three Springs* to *Shanopins*, added to the measured Length of the Temporary Line, make Twenty-six Miles more than the Mathematicians say there are in five Degrees of Longitude at Lat. 40.

2. That the Temporary Line was measured on the Surface of the Earth, up Hills and down Valleys, and therefore, an horizontal Line of One Hundred and Forty-four Miles must extend farther Westward; but how much, your Committee cannot take up them to say.

3. That the travelled Line from the *Three Springs* to *Shanopins* is not only up Hill and down, through a more mountainous Country, but is agreed by all to deviate much from a straight Line to the Right and left; and therefore, when drawn out to a horizontal Line, must extend yet farther Westward, in Proportion, than the Temporary Line.

Whether these Irregularities of both Lines, taken all together, will not exceed the Difference of Twenty-six Miles, must be submitted to the Judgment of the House.

And if, upon the Whole, *Shanopins-town*, be judged within the Limits of the Royal Grant to our Proprietary, *Weningo*, which by the Testimony of *Andrew Montour*, lies N. E. of *Shanopins*, and *North* of *Lawrel-hill*, must be deemed more so; since the Distance from *Lawrel-hill*, on a straight Line to *Shanopins*, does not by his and *Pattin's* Account, exceed Thirty-four Miles.

And accordingly we find that the *French* Map, by *M. Bellin*, lays down the whole *Riviere au Boeuf* (which runs into *Ohio* at *Weningo*) and on which the *French* Forts are built, but about four Degrees of Longitude *West* from *Philadelphia*.

All which is humbly submitted to the Correction of the House, this Seventh Day of *March*, 1754, by

JOSEPH FOX,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
MAHLON KIRKBRIDE,
GEORGE ASHBRIDGE,
PETER WORRAL,
JOSEPH ARMSTRONG,
MOSES STARR."

And the foregoing Report was again read, and considered, and referred to further Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Report of the Committee on the *Western* Bounds of this Province, and after a considerable Debate thereupon;

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *William Callender*, *Joseph Hampton*, *Thomas Cummings*, *Calvin Cooper*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Second Instant, agreeable to the general Sentiments of the House thereupon.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, made a Report in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

WE, the Committee appointed to answer the Governor's Message of the Second Instant, having made some Progress therein, find ourselves indispensibly obliged to answer that Part of the said Message wherein the Governor is pleased to say, 'He has undoubted Assurances that Part of his Majesty's Dominions within his Government is, at this Time, invaded by the Subjects of a Foreign Prince, who have erected Forts within the same;' and in Support thereof has since sent down to the House some Papers and Draughts; but considering they depend altogether for their Distances beyond the *Three Springs*, on the Computation made by *Indian* Traders as they have travelled from Place to Place, and the Incorrectness of *John Pattin* and *Andrew Montour*, in regard to their Observations of the Courses and Distances of the Roads, neither of them, as we apprehend, skilled in Mensuration, nor that it has ever been measured; we beg Leave, in an Affair of so much Importance, that the House will be pleased to declare their Sentiments on the said Papers by a Resolve of the House.

JOSEPH FOX,
WILLIAM CALLENDER,
JOSEPH HAMPTON,
THOMAS CUMMINGS,
CALVIN COOPER,
JOSEPH ARMSTRONG,
MOSES STARR."

And the said Report being again read, and considered, the Question was put,

Whether the Papers and Evidences, sent down and referred to by the Governor, do make it clearly appear that the Subjects of a Foreign Prince have erected Forts within the undoubted Limits of this Government? *Past in the Negative.*

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Second Instant, reported the same to the House, and it was read, approved, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Sixth Day of the Month called *May* next.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE are willing to hope the several Parts of the Governor's Message of the Second Instant, which neither relate to the Royal Orders, under our immediate Consideration, nor to this House, are such as, on Reflection, he will think not altogether suited to preserve that Harmony between the several Branches of the Legislature so necessary at all Times, and especially on this important Occasion; but as the Governor, in order to obtain this good End, professes himself ready to contribute every Thing in his Power, consistent with his Honour, and the Trust reposed in him, we shall most chearfully join with him in this desirable Purpose, so far as the Preservation of our Rights, and the Duty we owe our Constituents, can vindicate our Conduct. Nevertheless, as the Affairs of our *Indian* Allies, and our neighbouring Colonies, continue in the same Situation with regard to us as when we sent our Message of the Twenty-seventh of *February* last, we must, in a great Measure, refer to our Sentiments at that Time. We then were of Opinion, and still think, the safest Method for us to conduct ourselves in Obedience to the Royal commands (equally binding on the Governor and us) would be to recur to Lord *Holderness's* Letter, in which only those Royal Orders were precisely set forth, wherever we judged they differed from the Governor's Sentiments, or the Words of his Message to the House on that Occasion; yet this is unhappily imputed to us as an Endeavour to elude their Force, and a Pretence, in some Measure, for not complying with them, although, as the Governor is pleased to say, it was impossible we could have understood that Message in any other Light, than as referring to Lord *Holderness's* Letter, then lying on our Table; and from this supposed Misconduct of ours, the Governor, as we presume, has suddenly altered the whole Connection between us and his Majesty's Colony of *Virginia*.

As Governor *Dinwiddie* had laid before his Assembly the Earl of *Holderness's* Letter, sent, as we presume, in the same Terms to all the Colonies on the Continent, we judged it most prudent to wait till the Assembly of that Government had enabled him to act in Obedience to the Royal Commands, especially as they had that Letter under their Consideration from the first of *November* last, as appears by the Journal of their House of Burgesses now before us; but we are now called upon as Principals, and the Governor is pleased to inform us, that he has undoubted Assurance that Part of his Majesty's Dominions within this Government is at this Time invaded by the Subjects of a Foreign Prince, who have erected Forts within the same, and calls upon us, pursuant to his

Majesty's Orders, in the present Emergency, to grant such Supplies as may enable him to resist those hostile Attempts, and repel Force by Force; but as it appears to us the Governor is enjoined, by the Royal Orders, not to act as a Principal beyond the undoubted Limits of his Government, and as by the Papers and Evidences sent down, and referred to by the Governor, those Limits have not been clearly ascertained to our Satisfaction; we fear the altering our Connections with his Majesty's Colony of *Virginia*, and the precipitate Call upon us, as the Province invaded, cannot answer any good Purpose at this Time, and therefore, we are now inclined to make a short Adjournment."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Edward Warner* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, and acquaint him that the House propose to adjourn to the sixth Day of the Month called *May* next, if he hath no Objection thereto; and that they will at that Time provide for the Expence of Commissioners to be sent to *Albany*, and make a small Present to be delivered by them to the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, in Behalf of this Province.

The Report of the Committee of Laws being again read, and considered;

Ordered, That the Committee who brought in the said Report, be, with *Edward Warner*, *Joshua Morris*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Hampton*, *George Ashbridge*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Wright*, *Peter Worral*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *Moses Starr* a Committee to prepare and bring in Bills agreeable to all the several Articles contained therein, against the next Sitting of the Assembly (excepting the first thereof, which it referred to farther Consideration, and the last, for which a Committee is already appointed) and likewise that the said Committee do consider and amend the Bill for regulating Vendues, the Bill for preventing the Exportation of unmerchantable Wheat, *&c.* and the Bill for laying a Tax on Dogs, *&c.*

The Committee appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would send down an Answer to the said Message early this Afternoon, and desired that the House would not break up till they received it.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *John Harris's* and *John Pattin's* Accounts, that it was their Opinion there ought to be allowed the Sum of *Twenty Pounds* to the said *Harris*, and *Fifty Pounds* to the said *Pattin*, in full for their Expences and Trouble in going on their respective Messages from the Governor to the *Indians* at *Ohio*.

And the same being agreed to by the House, Orders were accordingly drawn on the Treasurer for Payment thereof, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"MY Desire of establishing Harmony between the Branches of the Legislature is such, that on the present Occasion I shall wave several Things personal to myself, which at another Time I might think it incumbent on me to take Notice of, and proceed to tell you,

That had you examined, with your usual Accuracy, the Gentlemen who by my Appointment attended your House for that Purpose on the Sixth Instant, and compared their Testimony with the written Papers at several Times communicated to you, it would, I think, have appeared to you, that the *French* have lately erected one or more Forts, far within the Limits of this Province, that nothing less than an actual Mensuration of the Distance could have made it more evident.

But, even taking it for granted, that the forementioned Incroachments are not within the Bounds of this Province, yet as I have been informed by the Governor of *Virginia*, that hostile Attempts have been made on Part of his Majesty's Dominions, and have been called upon by him for the Assistance of this Province, to repel the Invaders; you must be sensible, it is equally your Duty, in either of these Cases to grant such Supplies as the present Exigency of Affairs requires, and which, by his Majesty's Orders, contained in Lord *Holderness's* Letter (and by you acknowledged to be equally binding on both of us) I do now repeat to you the Necessity of.

I cannot therefore but be apprehensive that your Adjournment for so long a Time as to the Sixth of *May*, will defeat any Measures that might have been taken for that Purpose for this Year, and Consequently that his Majesty's just Expectations from us may be altogether frustrated.

However (if you persist in it) as the Right of Adjournment is a Privilege of your House, I must acquiesce therewith, and content myself with the Consciousness of having executed his Majesty's Commands in the best Manner I have been able.

March 9, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

and the said Message being again read, and considered;

Resolved, That as the Governor has a Right to summon the Assembly, whenever his Majesty's Service, or that of the Province requires it, this House adhere to their Adjournment.

An Account from *Hannah Boyd*, amounting to *Six Pounds Fourteen Shillings* and *Four-pence*, for the Board and Diet of *Andrew Montour*, during his Stay in Town, was laid before the House, read, and allowed;

And an Order for the Payment of the same was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Resolved, That *One Hundred Pounds Sterling*, be now paid to the Speaker, to be by him transmitted to the Agent in *Great-Britain*, to remain in his Hands for the Service of this Province, and to be accounted for hereafter.

And an Order was drawn on the Treasurer for Payment thereof, and signed by the Clerk, by Order of the House.

Ordered, That the Minutes of this, and the last Sitting of Assembly, be printed as soon as conveniently may be.

Then the House adjourned to the Sixth Day of the Month called *May* next.

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, smmoned (summoned) to meet this Day in Assembly, the House accordingly met.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter* and *Evan Morgan* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House is met, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them; and desire a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they went to the Secretary's to enquire if the Governor was in Town; who informed them, that he was not, but that the Governor had given him Direction to receive the House, and to acquaint them, that he would send a Message down to the House by Half an Hour after Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, with sundry Papers referred to therein;

and also the Writs by which the House were called; and one of them was read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor's Message being likewise read, was in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"I AM not insensible that an Absence from your Homes, at this busy Season of the Year, must be very inconvenient to your private Affairs; for which Reason I should not have called you together, before the Time to which you stood adjourned, but that I thought the Service of his Majesty, and the Interest of your Country required it.

In my several Messages during your late Session, to which I desire to refer you, I fully represented the dangerous Consequences that were to be apprehended from the Invasion made by the *French*, on Part of his Majesty's Dominions; and in Obedience to his Royal Orders, I pressed you in the warmest Manner, to grant such Supplies of Men and Money, as might enable me to resist the hostile Attempts of these Invaders, and to repel Force by Force. But for the Reasons set forth in your Answers, and particularly that you were unacquainted with the Result of the Government of *Virginia* with regard to this Invasion,' you declined granting the Supplies at that Time, and 'judged it most prudent to wait until the Assembly of that Colony had enabled their Governor to act in Obedience to the Royal Commands."

I am now to acquaint you, Gentlemen, that, since your Adjournment, I have received from Governor *Dinwiddie*, the several Papers herewith laid before you; by which it will appear, that he is taking all imaginable Pains for the Security of his Majesty's Dominions, so far as the Provision made by his Assembly will permit him to act; and that he is very impatient to know the Issue of your Deliberations on this Subject.—— I cannot therefore doubt but, agreeable to the Professions in your Message of the Twenty-seventh of *February*, "of being ready and willing to demonstrate your Duty and Loyalty, by giving such Sums of Money to the King's Use upon all suitable Occasions as may consist with your Circumstances, or can reasonably be expected from this Province;" I say I cannot doubt but you will, with the greatest Alacrity, lay hold on the present Opportunity of evincing the Sincerity of those Professions, by granting such an Aid to his Majesty as may comport with the Circumstances of the Province and be suitable to the Exigence of the Service. And in the doing of this I hope you will be guided rather by the

Importance of the Concern than by the Example of other Colonies: It being found by Experience to be a very ill-judged Piece of Oeconomy to cramp an Enterprise of this Nature in the Article of Supplies; and that whatever is given on such Occasions, short of being sufficient to accomplish the Ends proposed, becomes, for the most Part, a Waste of so much Treasure, without answering any of the Purposes for which it was intended.

I have at present only to add my Request, that whatever you think proper to do on this Occasion, may receive all the Dispatch the Nature of the Thing will admit of; the Season of the Year for Action advancing so fast, that unless our Measures be speedily taken, they will, I fear, be rendered altogether unserviceable.

April 3, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

The several Papers sent down with the foregoing Messages were also read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Two Letters from the Agent to the Committee of Correspondence were laid before the House and severally read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

An Extract of a Letter from *George Croghan*, to *Richard Peters*, Esq; concerning two Accounts of his against the Province (from one of which, as he sets forth, the Sum of *Fifty Pounds*, and from the other, the Sum of *Thirty Pounds*, have been struck off by a former Assembly) was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

A Petition from *Benjamin Bagnall*, junior now in the Goal of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read setting forth, that the Petitioner having sundry Actions of Debts brought against him, was in Pursuance thereof, committed to the said Goal in *April* 1753; and finding that his Circumstances were so straitened as that it was not in his Power to satisfy the whole of his Debts, he offered to resign all his Effects to his Creditors, to be proportioned amongst them; that some of the said Creditors refusing to accept of his Offer aforesaid, the Petitioner applied to the insolvent Court in *December* last for Relief in the Premises; but upon a groundless Pretence, raised by one or two of his said Creditors, of his having concealed some of his Effects, he was remanded to Prison till a further Hearing should be had, on a Day appointed in the Sessions in *January* last; that at the said appointed Time, the Petitioner made it appear to the said Court, that he had rendered a just and true Account of all his real and personal Estate, yet nevertheless, such was the Cruelty of two or three of his Creditors, that he was then again remanded to Goal, they agreeing to allow *Three Shillings per* Week for his Support, an Allowance, small as it is, yet cannot be exceeded by Law; that the Petitioner has a suffering Wife, and two small Children dependent on him which must inevitable become chargeable to the Public, or perish for Want of the Necessaries of Life, as it is not now in his Power to do any Thing for the Subsistence; that the Petitioner apprehends the Insolvent Act was well intended for the Relief of such unhappy Persons as by Losses or other Misfortunes should be rendered unable to pay their Debts, yet he humbly presumes, that the said Act is defective, in having left it in the Power of a merciless Creditor to keep a Man languishing his whole Life in Goal, and hath not made necessary Provision for those Debtors who are burthened with large Families: the Petitioner therefore humbly prays that this House would take the Premises into their serious Consideration, and grant him such Relief as in their Wisdom shall seem most meet.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

An Account from *Benjamin Franklin*, for the Printing and Binding the second Volume of the old Votes of the Assemblies of this Province, was laid before the House, read, and allowed.

And an Order for the Payment thereof was drawn on the Treasurer of the General Loan-Office, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

The Message from the Governor was again read and considered, and referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *William Chancellor*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Practitioner in Physic, was presented to the House and read, praying, that as the Powder-House, near the said City is kept in good Order, and answers the Purposes for which it was erected, that this House would be pleased to continue the Profits arising therefrom to the Use of his two younger Sisters, who with *William Hill*, the Person who attends the same, have hitherto been chiefly supported and maintained thereby; or if this House should think proper to remove the said Power-House to a more suitable Place, that they would be pleased to appoint the Petitioner the Keeper thereof, in Behalf and for the Use of his Sisters aforesaid.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor's Message was again read, considered and debated, and after a considerable Time spent thereon, the same was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House a written Message, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'AS you have signified to me your Willingness to provide for the Expence of sending Commissioners to *Albany* at the ensuing Treaty to be held there, and also of making a Present to the *Indians* of the *Six Nations* on Behalf of this Province, I thought it incumbent on me to obtain the best Intelligence I was able, of what was proposed to be tranacted at that Treaty, for the general Benefit and Advantage of these Colonies, and of every Thing relating therto which I conceived necessary for your Information, when you should take this Subject more particularly into Consideration,

With this View I wrote to Governor DeLancey, whom the King has been pleased to set at the Head of this Convention, whose well known Abilities, and Experience in *Indian* Affairs, render him in every Respect equal to the important Trust. And as he has been pleased by his Letter of the First Instant, to commicate his Sentiments fully and freely upon the several Points I imagine you will be desirous of being acquainted with, I have often chosen to lay the same before you in his own Words; from whence, and from what Governor *Shirley* has so well said upon the same Subject, added to your own Knowledge of the present Circumstances of Affairs, you will be able to offer me your Advise upon this Occasion, to which you may be assured I shall pay the greatest Regard. And I must the rather insist on this, as, without a perfect Knowledge of your Sentiments, from whom all future Supplies, upon any Agreement to be made between the several Colonies, must come, it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for me to give such Instructions to the Gentlemen Commissioners on the Part of this Province as may be suitable and adequate to the Purpose.

April 4, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

The Letter from Governor *De Lancey*, referred to in the foregoing Message, was also read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Governor's Message of Yesterday being again read, and considered, was after some Time referred to farther Consideration

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of the *Third* Instant was again read; and, after a considerable Debate thereupon, the same was referred to further Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock. *P. M.*

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Governor's Message, which was read again, and debated, and, after a long Time spent thereon,

Resolved, That a Sum of Money be at this Time given to the King's Use:

Yeas.	Nays.
Evan Morgan,	*Edward Warner,*
Hugh Evans,	*Joseph Trotter,*
Joseph Stretch,	*Joshua Morris,*
Benjamin Franklin,	*Joseph Fox,*
William Callender,	*Joseph Hamton,*
Mahlon Kirkbride,	*Samuel Brown,*
Griffith Owen,	*Jonathan Ingham,*
Derrick Hogeland,	*William Hoge,*
William Smith,	*Thomas Cummings,*
Joseph Gibbons,	*Nathaniel Pennock,*
Peter Dicks,	*George Ashbridge,*
James Wright,	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
Calvin Cooper,	*William Peters,*
John Wright,	*Joseph James,*
David M'Connaughy,	*Peter Worral,*
John Armstrong,	*Moses Starr.*
Joseph Armstrong,	
William Parsons.	

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *Calvin Cooper*, *John Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for granting a Sum of Money to the King's Use, to be sunk by the Excise on spirituous Liquors; and for striking a further Sum of Bills of Credit, for exchanging such as are torn and ragged.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of the *Fourth* Instant being again read, together with the Letters therein referred to,

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *William Parsons* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire he would be pleased to inform them what Gentlemen he purposes to appoint as Commissioners for the intended Treaty at *Albany.*

Ordered, That *Joseph Gibbons* have Leave to be absent till *Third-day* next, on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day* at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he intended to have appointed Mr. *Penn* and Mr. *Peters*, of the Council and Mr. *Norris* and Mr. *Franklin*, of the Assembly, to be the Commissioners for this Province at the Treaty proposed to be held at *Albany* in *June* next.

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds'* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for striking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

A Petition from *Joseph Redman*, Collector of the Excise for the City and County of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read setting forth that the Petitioner is informed that this House is now preparing a Bill, wherein it is proposed to prolong the Act for laying a Duty on spirituous Liquors to a further Time; that the Petitioner having for some Time past been favoured with the Office of Collector of the said Duties for the said City and County, in which he would willingly hope he hath acted to the Satisfaction of the Assemblies of this Province for the Time being; therefore humbly prays that he may be continued therein for such longer Time as to the Wisdom of this House shall seem most proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Chester*, was presentd to the House, and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners conceive that the Excise upon spirituous Liquors, retailed within this Province, falls heavy upon the

Farmers, by Reason of the Quantity of said Liquors they are obliged to use in Harvest Time; but the Petitioners are humbly of Opinion, that if *One penny Half-penny per* Gallon was to be paid by the Importers and Distillers of such Liquors within this Province, it would amount to considerably more than the Money raised by the Excise as it now stands; the Petitioners therefore pray that this House would take the Premises into Consideration, and grant them such Relief therein as shall be judged most suitable.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of torn and ragged Bills now current in this Province, was read the second Time; and, after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, it was committed for Amendment to the Committee who brought in the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds*, &c. being amended by the Committee was read by Paragraphs; and, after a considerable Debate concerning the Sum to be inserted therein as given to the King's Use, the Question being put, *Whether the Sum of* Twenty Thousand Pounds *should be now given to the King's Use?* It *Passed in the Negative.*

Yeas.

Evan Morgan,
Benjamin Franklin,
Griffith Owen,
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy,
John Armstrong,
Joseph Armstrong,
William Parsons.

Nays.

Edward Warner,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Joseph Fox,
William Callender,
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,
Samuel Brown,
William Hoge,
Derrick Hogeland,
Jonathan Ingham,

Nays.

William Smith,
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,
George Ashbridge,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
Peter Dicks,
William Peters,
James Wright,
Calvin Cooper,
Peter Worral,
Moses Starr.

And the Question being put, *That the Sum of* Fifteen Thousand Pounds *be given to the King's Use at this Time?* It also *Passed in the Negative.*

Yeas.	Nays.	Nays.
Evan Morgan,	*Edward Warner,*	*Jonathan Ingham,*
Benjamin Franklin,	*Joseph Trotter,*	*William Smith,*
Griffith Owen,	*Joshua Morris,*	*Thomas Cummings,*
James Wright,	*Hugh Evans,*	*Nathaniel Pennock,*
Calvin Cooper,	*Joseph Stretch,*	*George Ashbridge,*
John Wright,	*Joseph Fox.*	*Joseph Gibbons,*
David M'Connaughy,	*William Callender,*	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
John Armstrong,	*Mahlon Kirkbride,*	*Peter Dicks,*
Joseph Armstrong,	*Joseph Hamton,*	*William Peters,*
William Parsons.	*Samuel Brown,*	*Peter Worral,*
	William Hoge,	*Moses Starr.*
	Derrick Hogeland,	

The Question then was put, *That* Ten Thousand Pounds *be now given to the King's Use?* And that likewise *Passed in the Negative.*

Yeas.	Nays.	Nays.
Evan Morgan,	*Edward Warner,*	*Derrick Hogeland,*
Benjamin Franklin,	*Joseph Trotter,*	*Jonathan Ingham,*
Griffith Owen,	*Joshua Morris,*	*William Smith,*
Peter Dicks,	*Hugh Evans,*	*Thomas Cummings,*
James Wright,	*Joseph Stretch,*	*Nathaniel Pennock,*
Calvin Cooper,	*Joseph Fox,*	*George Ashbridge,*
John Wright,	*William Callender,*	*Joseph Gibbons,*
David M'Connaughy,	*Mahlon Kirkbride,*	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
John Armstrong,	*Joseph Hamton,*	*William Peters,*
Joseph Armstrong,	*Samuel Brown,*	*Peter Worral.*
William Parsons.	*William Hoge,*	*Moses Starr.*

Ordered, That the Consideration of the Sum to be given to the King's Use be referred to To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Sum to be granted to the King's Use; and after a long Time spent therein, the same was referred to further Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Sum to be given to the King's Use at this Time; and after a considerable Debate thereupon, it was referred to further Consideration To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Sum to be given to the King's Use; and after a long Debate, the Question was put, *Whether* Five Thousand Pounds *should be the Sum given to the King's Use at this Time?*

Past in the Negative

Yeas.	Nays	Nays.
Hugh Evans	*Edward Warner,*	*Thomas Cummings,*
Joseph Stretch,	*Evan Morgan,*	*Nathaniel Pennock,*
Mahlon Kirkbride,	*Joshua Morris,*	*George Ashbridge,*
Derrick Hogeland,	*Joseph Fox,*	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
William Smith,	*Benjamin Franklin,*	*William Peters,*
Joseph Gibbons,	*William Callender,*	*Peter Worral,*
Peter Dicks,	*Joseph Hamton,*	*David M'Connaughy,*
James Wright,	*Samuel Brown,*	*John Armstrong,*
Calvin Cooper,	*William Hoge,*	*Joseph Armstrong,*
John Wright,	*Griffith Owen,*	*Moses Starr,*
	Jonathan Ingham,	*William Parsons.*

Ordered, That *Joshua Morris, Benjamin Franklin, William Callender, Jonathan Ingham, Thomas Cummings, Peter Worral, David M'Connaughy, John Armstrong, Moses Starr* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Third Instant, and report the same to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, reported the same to the House and it was read by Order.

Resolved, That this House will this Week adjourn to the *Thirteenth* Day of the Month called *May* next;

The Message from the Governor of the Fourth Instant, with the Letters from the Governors of *Boston* and *New-York* referred to therein, being severally read and considered.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Five Hundred Pounds* be given, in Behalf of this Province, as a Present to the *Indians* of the Six *Nations*, at the Treaty proposed to be held at *Albany* in *June* next.

Ordered, That the Committee who prepared the Draught of the Answer to the Governor's Message, do add a Clause to the said Draught to inform the Governor of the foregoing Resolves, and that the House approve of the Commissioners he has been pleased to nominate for the intended Treaty at *Albany*, and will make Provision for their Expences at the next Sitting; when the House will likewise consider the Governor's Message of the Fourth Instant, and the Papers communicated therewith, and offer their Sentiments to him on the important Matters they contain.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Letter from the Agent to the Speaker was laid before the House, and read.

The Committee having added a Clause to the Draught of an Answer, agreeable to the Order of the House, the said Answer was again read, approved of, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WHENEVER the Service of the King, or the Interest of the Country may appear to require their Attendance in Assembly, we hope the Representatives of the People will always, as they have now done, pay a ready and chearful Obedience to the Governor's Call, however inconvenient the Season may be with respect to their private Affairs: We are nevertheless thankful to the Governor for his considerate Regard to our Circumstances on the present Occasion, expressed in his Message of the Third Instant.

And we now beg Leave to inform the Governor, that we have had that Message under our serious Consideration ever since it came down to the House; but, after all our Debates thereupon, we find, that near one Half of the Members are, for various Reasons, against granting any Money to the King's Use at this Time; and those who are for granting, differ so widely in their Sentiments concerning the Sum, that there seems at present no Possibility of their agreeing, except in such a Sum as, in the Judgment of many of them, is quite disproportionate to the Occasion: Therefore, and that the Members may have an Opportunity of consulting their Constituents on this important Affair, we are now inclined to adjourn to the Thirteenth of the next Month.

We thank the Governor for his very obliging Message of the Fourth Instant, and shall take the same and the Papers therewith communicated to us, under Consideration, and offer our Sentiments to the Governor on the weighty Matters they contain at our next Meeting. At the same Time we shall provide for the Expences of the Commissioners the Governor has been pleased to nominate for the Treaty at *Albany*, of whom we approve, and have now voted a Present of *Five Hundred*

Pounds to be by them delivered to the *Indians* on that Occasion, in Behalf of this Province."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Samuel Brown* and *Griffith Owen* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, and acquaint him, that the House propose to make the Adjournment, mentioned in their said Message, some Time To-morrow.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into his Consideration, and return an Answer to the House this Morning, if he found it necessary.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I CALLED you to meet me in Assembly before the Time to which you stood adjourned, to give you an Opportunity of demonstrating your Duty to the King, by granting such an Aid to His Majesty, as might be sufficient, in Conjunction with the other Colonies, to secure his Dominions against any further Invasion by the *French*, and if need should be, to repel the Invaders; and to that Purpose I sent you a Message on the Third Instant.—— It could not therefore but surprize me to find that, after so long Deliberation, the first Occasion of my hearing from you on that Subject should be to signify to me your Inclination to adjourn to the Thirteenth of *May* next, without having in any Shape provided for the Service recommended to you.

'I am very unwilling to have any Difference with you on this or any other Occasion, where it can possibly be avoided; And therefore after declaring to you my Opinion, that so long an Adjournment will render any Thing you can then propose to do for his Majesty's Service ineffectual to the Ends he has been pleased to recommend, I shall leave you to act therein, as to yourselves shall seem most expedient.

'I am pleased, nevertheless, with your Determination to provide for the Expences of the Gentlemen to be appointed, on the Part of this Province, for conducting the Treaty at *Albany*, and with the Sum voted as a Present to the *Indians* on that Occasion. It is likewise a Satisfaction to me to find that the Nomination I have made of Commissioners for that Service is agreeable to you.

April 13, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

The House taking the said Message into their Consideration,

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the *Sixth* Day of the Month called *May* next, the Time to which they stood adjourned before the Call of the Governor.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House having considered his Message of this Morning, have thought it proper to shorten the Adjournment mentioned in their Message of Yesternight, and to adjourn to the *Sixth* of the Month called *May* next.

The Petition from *Benjamin Bagnall*, junior, was again read, and considered, and after some Time spent therein;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Joseph Fox, Benjamin Franklin*, and *William Callender* be a Committee to enquire into the Facts set forth in the said Petition, and report their Opinion thereupon at the next Sitting of Assembly.

Ordered, That the Minutes of this Sitting be printed with all convenient Speed,

Then the House adjourned to the *Sixth* Day of the Month called *May* next.

THE House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House have met according to their Adjournment, and are ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they went to the Secretary's; who informed them, that he had Directions from the Governor to receive the Message of the House, and to acquaint them that the Governor would send a Message down to the House this Morning.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, with sundry Papers referred to therein, which were read, and the Message follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"AS you are now met to resume the Consideration of the several Matters repeatedly and earnestly recommended to you in Consequence of his Majesty's Commands; in Addition to what has been already communicated, I now lay before you the melancholy Account which I received on *Friday* last, by Express, from Colonel *Washington*, of the Appearance of a *French* Army of upwards of One Thousand Men, with eighteen Pieces of Artillery, before the Fort building by the *Virginians*, on the *Ohio*, near the Mouth of *Mohongialo*, and of the Surrender thereof, on the Seventeenth of last Month, to their superior Force.

I thought it necessary, after your Adjournment, to send an Express to Governor *Dinwiddie*, in order to be particularly informed, whether the Forces, raised in his Government, were actually marched towards *Ohio*, and in what Number; and what Accounts he had of their Proceedings, or of those of the *French;* what Assistance he could depend on from the other Colonies and, in general, whatever should occur to him, necessary for my Information, with respect to this Affair, and to acquaint me how I might be the most useful to him; and I have the Satisfaction to communicate to you his Answer.

When you take into Consideration those Parts of my Messages which relate to the Treaty at *Albany*, I must desire you will weigh, with the utmost Attention, the several Matters recommended by Governor *DeLancey* in his Letter of the Nineteenth of *April;* and as they are of great Importance to the Interest of his Majesty's Colonies in general, and of this in particular, I hope they will have their due Weight with you in your Deliberations and Advice.

The Proposals made by the Governor of *Boston* and *New-York*, for an Union of the several Colonies in *Indian* Affairs, is so agreeable to my Sentiments, that I earnestly recommend it to your Consideration; and that you will enable me to instruct the Commissioners from this Province to concur with those from the other Colonies, in Case a reasonable Plan shall be offered them for that Purpose. This Method of acting in Concert, and by fair and equitable Quotas and Proportions of Expence, will, in the End, be much less chargeable, and greatly more beneficial to our real Interest, than the Practice now in Use of making frequent and distinct Presents to the *Indians*, which have been found, by Experience, to contribute little or nothing to their real Strength or Security; but on the contrary, has administered Occasions of Debaucheries and Contentions among themselves, which have produced irreconcileable Animosities in Families, and obliged them often to separate from one other, to the great

Weakening of our *Indian* Interest, and Advantage of our powerful and enterprizing Rivals.

Not having of a long Time heard any Thing from the *Indians*, living on the Waters of the *Sasquehannah*, I thought it necessary to send Mr. *Weiser* to them with a respectful Message, conceived in general Terms, and with a View only to be informed in what Light the Hostilities of the *French* had been represented to them; and whether any, and what Measures had been proposed to them in Relation thereto.

Mr. *Weiser's* Journey answered my Purpose, as you will see by his Letters, which he dispatched to me by his son, as soon as he returned to his own Home.

May 7, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

The Papers sent down with the foregoing Message, were entituled, as follows, *viz.*

1. *A Letter from Colonel* Washington, *to the Governor; dated at* New-store, *on* Potowmack, *April* 27, 1754.

2. *A Summons, by Order of* Contrecœur, *Captain of one of the Companies of the Detachment of the* French *Marine; Commander in Chief of his most Christian Majesty's Troops, now on the* Beautiful River; *To the Commander of those of the King of* Great-Britain, *at the Mouth of the River* Monongahela. Dated from the *French* Camp, *April* 6, 1754.

3. *A Speech sent from the* Half-King, Scaronyady, *and the* Belt of Wampum, *to the Governors of* Virginia and Pennsylvania.

4. *A Letter from Governor* Dinwiddie, *to Governor* Hamilton; dated *April* 27, 1754.

5. *A Letter from Governor* DeLancey, *to Governor* Hamilton; dated *April* 19, 1754.

6. *An Extract of a Letter from the Commanding Officer at* Oswego, *to the Governor of* New-York; *giving an Account of the March of a Body of* French *Troops from* Canada *towards the* Ohio; dated *March* 27, 1754.

7. *A Copy of the Resolve of the Assembly of* New-York, *on the Seventeenth of* April *last, to join with the other Colonies in the Expence of erecting Forts in the Northern Parts of that Province, and in the Country of the* Six Nations, *to*

secure the Wives and Children of those Indians, *when they go out to War in Behalf of the* British *Nation.*

8. *A Letter from* Conrad Weiser *to the Governor, containing an Account of his Journey to* Shamokin; dated *May* 2, 1754.

9. *A Paper containing the* Indian *News, which* Conrad Weiser *heard when at* Shamokin.

The Secretary also laid before the House an Account of *James Foley*, for his Expences and Trouble in coming Express from Colonel *Washington* to the Governor, amounting to *Eighteen Pounds Five Shillings*, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they are of Opinion, that the Account of *James Foley* ought to be allowed; to which the House assenting, an Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The said *James Foley* attending, was called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to him by the House, relating to the present Situation of Affairs on the *Western* Frontiers, was ordered to withdraw.

The Message from the Governor, with the several Papers therein referred to, being again read, and considered;

Resolved, That this House will To-morrow Morning proceed upon the Bill which was brought into the House at the last Sitting, for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Pounds* thereof to the King's use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of torn and ragged Bills, now current in this Province.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House, according to the Resolve of Yesternight, went upon the Consideration of the Bill for striking the Sum of Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* and, after some Time Spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c*. being again read and debated; the Question was put, *Whether the Sum of* Twenty Thousand Pounds *should be now given to the King's* Use?

Past in the Negative.

YEAS.

Evan Morgan,
Benjamin Franklin,
Griffith Owen,
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy
John Armstrong,
Joseph Armstrong,
William Parsons.

NAYS.

Edward Warner,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch.
Joseph Fox,
William Callender,
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,
Samuel Brown,
William Hoge,
Jonathan Ingham,

NAYS.

William Smith,
Thomas Cummings.
Nathaniel Pennock.
George Ashbridge,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
Peter Dicks,
William Peters,
Joseph James,
Calvin Cooper,
Peter Worrall,
Moses Starr.

The Question was then put, *Whether the Sum of* Fifteen Thousand Pounds *shall be given to the King's Use at this Time?*

Past in the Negative.

YEAS.

Evan Morgan,
Benjamin Franklin,
Griffith Owen,
William Smith,
Calvin Cooper,
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy
John Armstrong,
Joseph Armstrong,
William Parsons.

NAYS.

Edward Warner,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Joseph Fox,
William Callender,
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,
Samuel Brown,
William Hoge,

NAYS.

Jonathan Ingham.
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,
George Ashbridge,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
Peter Dicks,
William Peters.
Joseph James,
Peter Worrall,
Moses Starr.

Resolved, That the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds *be now given to the King's Use?*

YEAS.

Evan Morgan,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Benjamin Franklin,
William Callender,
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,
Griffith Owen,
Jonathan Ingham,

YEAS.

William Smith,
Peter Dicks,
Calvin Cooper,
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy,
John Armstrong,
Joseph Armstrong,
William Parsons.

NAYS.
Edward Warner,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Joseph Fox,
Samuel Brown,
William Hoge,
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,

NAYS.
George Ashbridge,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
William Peters,
Joseph James,
Peter Worral,
Moses Starr.

Resolved, N. C. D. That *Twenty Thousand Pounds* be now struck in Bills of Credit, for the Exchange of such as are torn and ragged, and now current by Law within this Province.

Ordered, That the Bill for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds* and for granting *Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* be committed to the Committee who brought it in, to be made agreeable to the foregoing Resolves; and for Amendment.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Thousand Pounds,* &c. being made agreeable to the Resolves of Yesternight, was read, with the Amendments, the first time, and considered; and the farther consideration thereof was referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Thirty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and for granting* Ten Thousand Pounds *thereof to the King's Use,* &c. being read the second time, and some Alterations made therein at the Table;

Ordered, That the said Bill be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking* Thirty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and for granting* Ten Thousand Pounds *thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of torn and ragged Bills now current in this Province,* being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *William Parsons* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and desire his Concurrence thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* report, that they had delivered the Bill according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take the same into his Consideration, and give it all the Dispatch he possibly could.

The Messages from the Governor of the Fourth of *April*, the Seventh Instant, together with the Letters from Governor *Shirley*, and Governor *De Lancey*, therein referred to, being severally read;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *William Callender*, *Joseph Hamton*, *George Ashbridge*, *Peter Worral*, *David M'Connaughy*, *John Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Messages, and report the same to the House.

A Petition from *Robert Sitlinton*, now confined in the City Goal, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner having met with Losses in Trade, and other Misfortunes, was rendered unable to pay his Debts, and was therefore thrown into the said Goal, where he has been detained upwards of fourteen Months, without the least legal Allowance having been made for his Support; that the Petitioner always was, and still is, ready to give up all his Effects to his Creditors; but they refusing to accept of the same, he is obliged to continue there, though in Want of the Necessaries of Life, owing, as he humbly apprehends, to some Deficiency in the Insolvent Act of this Province; The Petitioner therefore prays, that this House would grant him such Relief in the Premises as his unhappy Circumstances may require.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Committee appointed to enquire into the Facts contained in the Petition of *Benjamin Bagnall*, junior; and that the said Committee do report thereon to the House, as soon as they shall have made the necessary Enquiries.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill entituled, *An Act for supplying the* Western Indians, *Friends and Allies of* Great-Britain, *with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the* Indian *Trade*, was brought in by the

Committee appointed for that Purpose, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Lancaster*, setting forth the great Necessity of a further Addition to the Paper Currency of this Province, and praying that this House would once more endeavour to get a Bill passed by the Governor for that Purpose, as the future Welfare of the Country, in their Opinion, depends much upon it; was presented to the House and read, and *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

Sundry Letters from *Richard Patridge* and *Robert Charles*, Esquires, were laid before the House, and read.

A bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufacturers made thereof, was read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, relating to the intended Treaty at *Albany*, reported the same to the House, and it was read, considered, and referred to farther consideration To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Draught of the Message to the Governor was again read, and considered, and referred to further consideration.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down the Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* with sundry Amendments proposed by him to the said Bill; which being read, some thereof were agreed to, and in others the House adhered to the Bill.

Ordered, That *David M'Cannaughy* and *John Armstrong* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the said Bill, with a Note of such of his proposed Amendments as are agreed to by the House, and acquaint the Governor, that the House desire he would be pleased to pass the Bill as it now stands.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, &c. report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take the same into Consideration, and return an Answer to the House as soon as possible.

The Message to the Governor, in Answer to his several Messages relating to the Treaty to be held at *Albany*, was again read, and considered, after a considerable Debate thereupon,

Resolved, That the same be transcribed, as it now stands in order to be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor sent down, by the Secretary, the Bill for striking the sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* with a written Message, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"CONSIDERING the Royal Instruction laid before the Assembly the last Year, it must be apparent that I have, merely from a Desire to oblige you, consented to raise the Money intended for his Majesty's Use in the Manner by you proposed. And have prolonged the Currency of the Bills of Credit, to be issued in virtue of the Bill now under Consideration, as far as I can think consistent with my own Safety.

And as the Fund to be established upon the Foot of my proposed Amendment will be more than sufficient to repay the Sum granted by the Bill, I can see no Reason for extending the Act of Excise longer than four Years beyond the Date of its present Limitation; or for burthening the People unnecessarily with a Tax that possibly may not be wanted; and therefore find no Cause to recede from that Amendment.

And as for the first, I am of Opinion, it is so indispensibly necessary, that unless some such Provision be made, the whole Intent of the Grant to his Majesty may be defeated. But if, on further Consideration, the Method by me proposed shall not be approved by you, it will be very agreeable to me that Commissioners be named in the Bill, to act conjunctly with the Commander in Chief for the Time being, in disposing of the Money.

May 15, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

The Secretary also laid before the House, two Accounts of *Thomas Jervis*, for his Trouble and Expences in going twice Express from this Government to *Virginia;* also one other Account of the said *Jervis* for the Keeping of *Andrew Montour's* Horses during his Stay in town, The Governor's Message of this Morning was again read, and after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, the Question was put, whether the Amendment proposed by the Governor to the Bill for striking *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, &c. in relation to the Term of Years therein mentioned for the Extension of the Excise Act, ought to be accepted by this House?

Past in the Negative unanimously.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Smith*, *Peter Dicks*, *Calvin Cooper*, *John Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's said Message, and report the same to the House this Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of this Morning, reported the same to the House, and being twice read, it was approved, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned for Half an Hour.

The House met, *&c.*

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE House are not inclined to enter into any Dispute with the Governor on the Subject of his proposed Amendments to the Money-Bill, as the Representatives of the People have an undoubted Right to judge, and determine, not only of the Sum to be raised for the Use of the Crown, but of the Manner of raising it.

The Governor, in his Message, of the Nineteenth of *February*, was pleased to tell us, "That if the House should be of Opinion that there will be a Necessity to strike a farther Sum in Bills of Credit, to defray the Charges of raising Supplies for his Majesty's Service in this Time of imminent Danger, and would create a proper Fund or Funds for sinking the same in a few Years, he would concur with us in passing a Law for that Purpose, thinking himself sufficiently warranted so to do in Cases of real Emergency."

On this Assurance the House have prepared a Bill, and presented it to the Governor, to strike the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds*, to give the same to the King's Use, and to sink it by an Extension of the Excise Act for a farther Term of ten Years. The Governor will be pleased to consider, that his

Predecessor, to whom the mentioned Instruction was given, did afterwards pass an Act of the same King, extending the Excise Act ten Years (now near expired) for a Grant of *Five Thousand Pounds* only; and we never heard that he incurred the Royal Displeasure for so doing. As the Sum we grant is double, we had no Expectation that our proposing the same Term would have been deemed extravagant. The Governor thinks four Years sufficient; but as the Representatives are best acquainted with the Circumstances of the People, and must themselves, as a Part of the People, bear a Share of all Burthens laid upon them, it seems not reasonable to suppose they will lay such Burthens unnecessarily. They now offer *Ten Thousand Pounds* to the Crown, and propose a Manner of raising it, that they judge most easy and convenient for the People they represent: And if the Governor thinks fit to refuse it, meerly from an Opinion that a shorter Term for sinking the Bills would be more easy for the People, we cannot but suppose, that since the Messages in which he so warmly recommended this Affair to us, he has, on farther Advices, or better Consideration, changed his Sentiments of the Importance of the present Occasion for Supplies, and doth not now think the Danger so imminent, or the Emergency so great or so real, as he then apprehended it to be.

We therefore beg Leave to acquaint the Governor, that if this Amendment regarding the Term is insisted on, it is needless to consider the other relating to Commissioners, for the Bill cannot pass this House."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, with the Bill for striking *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* and acquaint him, that this being an inconvenient Season of the Year for the Members to be from their respective Homes, the House desire the Governor would be pleased to let them know his Result on the said Bill as soon as possible.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into Consideration, and return an Answer as soon as he conveniently could.

The three Accounts of *Thomas Jervis*, which were Yesterday Morning laid before the House by the Secretary, were read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Order was drawn on the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, for the Sum of *Five Hundred Pounds* (voted by this House at their last Sitting, to be given as a Present to the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, at the Treaty to be held at *Albany* on the Fourteenth of *June* next) made payable to the Speaker, and signed by the Clerk, by Order of the House.

Resolved, That the Commissioners, appointed by the Governor to deliver the said Present, have Power to draw upon the Treasurer of this Province for such Sums of Money as shall be sufficient to defray their necessary Expences to, at, and from *Albany*, and that the said Treasurer accept and pay all such Orders on Demand.

Ordered, That the Clerk do furnish the Treasurer with a Copy of the foregoing Resolve.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed that there were some *French* Deserters from *Canada*, now in Town, in a distressed Condition, and in Want of the Necessaries of Life;

Resolved, That the Sum of *Ten Pounds* be paid by the Trustees of the Loan-Office into the Hands of *Anthony Benezet*, to be by him laid out for their Relief in such Manner as he shall think most suitable, until they can find Employment at their respective Callings.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House met, and adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, &c. with a Message in Writing, which was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"AS I am not less unwilling than yourselves to enter into Disputes of any Kind, I could have been well pleased to have freed from the Necessity of animadverting upon the Contents of your Message on the Subject of the Bill for granting Money to the King's Use; but as that Message appears to contain a Position derogatory to the Rights of Government, I cannot, consistent with my own Judgment, and the Trust reposed in me, suffer it to pass without some Observation.

You are pleased to say, that "the Representatives of the People have an undoubted Right to judge and determine, not only of the Sum to be raised for the Use of the Crown, but of the Manner of raising it." This, Gentlemen, is a Privilege which I neither did or ever shall deny to be inherent in you as an Assembly, while it is only understood to imply that no Money can be levied on the People without your Consent. But if you would infer from it, that I have no Right to exercise my Judgment, with respect to Money Bills, farther than either to approve or reject them as they are offered to me, I must beg Leave to differ from you in Opinion, both from the Reason of the Thing, and the Practice of my Predecessors upon several Occasions.

The Governors of this Province are invested with one Half of the Legislative Powers; and being equally concerned, in Duty, with the Assembly, to consult the Ease, Freedom and Welfare of the People committed to their Care, must of Course be supposed to have a Right to interfere and rectify any Mistakes they apprehend likely to be committed by the other Branch of the Legislature, as well in regard to the Laying of Taxes, as to Matters of any other Kind, unless it can be proved they have renounced their Right thereto by some public Act, which I do not conceive to have been the Case here: For to what Purpose is a Governor appointed and invested with a Share in the Legislative Authority, if he hath no discretionary Power to object to what he thinks amiss in the Proceedings of an Assembly, and is only to be made use of as an Instrument to ratify their Transactions, though ever so inconsistent with his own Judgment, and the Good of the People?

You must be sensible, Gentlemen, that I have neither objected to the Sum granted for the Use of the Crown, nor to the manner of raising it as proposed by the Bill under Consideration; though I could heartily have wished that the Sum had been larger, and that it had been given more seasonably, as well as that some less exceptionable Method had been fallen on for raising it, than by compelling me to depart from the Letter of his Majesty's Instruction; which nothing less than my Concern for the King's Service, and the Preservation of the People under my Government, in this Time of imminent Danger, could have induced me to comply with: On which Accounts, I hope his Majesty, upon a fair and candid Representation of the Case, will most graciously be pleased to pardon me.

My principal Objection, you will know, is only against the Extension of the Fund, whereby the Money is proposed to be repaid, to an unnecessary Length, by which a Tax is to be laid and continued upon the People, without the least apparent Necessity. Can you suppose, if there should be any future Occasion, that a Governor will refuse his Assent to a Bill for levying Money for the general Utility of the Province? Or have you, in the present Case, at all imtimated to me any Services for which it is now wanted?

It is true, you have been pleased to make a Grant to his Majesty of *Ten Thousand Pounds*, which, as it was the most that could be obtained, I am in Hopes will be graciously accepted by him, as a Mark of your Duty; and in Compliance to my Message of the Nineteenth of *February*, I have consented to establish a Fund, by which the same will be repaid in the easiest Manner at the End of Six Years, and Leave a Surplus of several *Thousand Pounds* in your Hands, to be disposed of as you think fit: But I am sorry to find you are not satisfied with this, and that for the *Ten Thousand Pounds* now granted to his Majesty's Use, you are desirous of obtaining more than three times that Sum in Return, and urge, as a Precedent for my Behaviour, what was done by my Predecessor on a like Occasion.

I have no Desire, Gentlemen, to detract from the Merit of your late Governor, of which I allow him to have had a great deal: He might possibly have Reasons to influence his conduct, to which I am hitherto a Stranger; yet if one may judge from the Circumstances of his not having communicated them to those who, at that Time, had the greatest Share of his Confidence, and of his having never transmitted that Act for the Royal Approbation, I am inclined to thinks they were such as he himself was not very well pleased with. For my own Part, as I never made the Actions of another the Rule of my Conduct, farther then I thought them founded in Reason, and as at present I see none for altering my Opinion with regard to the proposed Amendment, I shall not recede from it, but upon Condition that you enlarge the Sum given for his Majesty's Use, in which Case I will agree to extend the Act in such Manner as to sink it in the same Proportions.

'But it is possible, Gentlemen, that more may be concealed under this Solicitude for a long Extension of the Excise than you have thought proper to reveal, otherwise I cannot account for your desiring to extend it so much beyond the usual Term, which in this Province never exceeded Five Years, till the late Governor thought fit to grant it for Ten, for no good Reason I have ever heard given, or believe possible to be given.

It is well known, that by the laws now in Force, the Public Money is solely in the Disposal of the Assembly without the Participation of the Governor; nevertheless, while these Acts, by which Money was raised, were of short Duration, the Governor had now and then an Opportunity of obliging the Assembly in a very essential Manner by a Renewal of those Acts, and thereby of making himself acceptable to them; but to extend them to such an unreasonable Length of Time as you now desire, might be to render him in a great Measure unnecessary to them during the Continuance of those Acts, but upon Terms very disagreeable to himself, as well as injurious to his Constituents: To this Condition therefore I will not be the Means of reducing any Successor of mine; and this Circumstance is of no small additional Weight with me to adhere to my Amendment.

You will please to observe, Gentlemen, that the Question betwixt you and me is not which of us is best acquainted with the Circumstances of the People, but whether it be reasonable to burden them with a Tax for a long Term of Time without any apparent Necessity. If any such had occurred to you, I cannot but think you would have made mention of it in your Message; but as you have not been pleased to point it out to me, I must of Course conclude none such has appeared to you.

You are exceedingly mistaken, Gentlemen, if you really do suppose me either to have changed my Sentiments with respect to *the Importance of the present Occasion for Supplies*, or that I am less apprehensive of the Dangers to which we are at present exposed from the Invasion of a Foreign Power, than when, by my several Messages, I represented them to you, and called upon you for such Supplies as might enable me to resist the Invaders, and repel Force by Force. On the contrary, I am fully sensible that the Danger is become more imminent, from the certain Account I have received of the Hostilities committed by them, and of their having made themselves Masters of a Fortress, which was building, by Order of the Governor of *Virginia*, on his Majesty's Lands, and of their having driven away the *English* Garrison. Of this you must likewise be sensible from the Accounts I communcated to you, if you do not wilfully oppose the Conviction of your own Senses, and shut your Eyes to the great Dangers that threaten the Country of which you are the Representatives, and which, by every Tie, both human and divine, you are bound to cherish and protect; to which End I once more call upon you, pursuant to his Majesty's Orders, for such Supplies as the present Emergency of Affairs requires.

Upon the whole, Gentlemen I have already gone further in my Condescensions to please you, than I am warranted to do by the King's Instruction, unless you will make an Addition to the Sum mentioned in the Bill; and have, at my own Risk, extended the Currency of the Money to be issued on this Occasion, for a Year longer than the utmost Term allowed to the Eastern Governments by the late Act of Parliament.

I well know the State of your public Funds, and that the Loan-Office itself, were the Money duly collected, is able to furnish a much larger Sum than you have thought fit to grant to his Majesty upon this important Occasion, independent of the Interest hereafter to accrue; which, together with the Excise, make up a Revenue of more than *Six Thousand Pounds* a Year. This Money belongs to the People, and, had you thought fit, might have been employed for the Service recommended to you, without laying any additional Tax upon them before it became necessary. I have nevertheless consented to gratify you in extending the Excise for such Time, as is more than sufficient to repay the Sum granted to his Majesty. without breaking in upon either of your present Funds, or the outstanding interest of the Loan-Office, which I cannot estimate, together with the broken Interest, at less than *Twelve Thousand Pounds.* If then, considering the favorable State of your Finances, you shall decline to do what his Majesty so justly expects from you, merely on Account of my refusing wholly to disregard his Majesty's Instruction, which would justly subject me to his highest Displeasure, and and to join with you in laying a Tax upon the People without its appearing to me to be in the least necessary; I think I may more justly impute to you a wanton Disregard of his Majesty's Commands, and of the Security and protection of your Constituents, than you can insinuate of me a Lukewarmness, with Regard to his Majesty's Service, of which I have the greatest Detestation, and from which I hoped by Conduct through this whole Affair might have exempted me.

Let me therefore, Gentlemen, recommend to your serious Attention a Review of your Conduct upon the present Occasion, and if you shall find that you have been too precipitate in the Resolution contained in your Message, let me intreat you to rectify it before it be too late; for, as I must be obliged soon to lay this whole Transaction before his Majesty, it would give me the greatest Pleasure that both you and I might receive his gracious Approbation of our Services. But if, contrary to my Hopes, you should still persist in refusing to accept of my Amendment, and the Bill should, by that Means be lost, I cannot but apprehend some unhappy Consequences to the Province from your extraordinary Behaviour.

May 17, 1754. JAMES HAMILTON."

And the foregoing Message being again read, and considered, was referred to farther Consideration To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of Yesterday being again read, and considered;

Resolved, That the raising of Money for Support of Government and other public Uses by an Excise on Spirituous Liquors hath been practised in this Province, with very little Intermission, for more than thirty Years past, and hath not been found, *communibus annis*, to produce more Money than was necessary for those Uses.

Resolved, That the raising Money by such Excise has by Experience been found less burthensome to the People, than the Method of Poll and Pounds Rates; and hence the Load of public Expence hath been more chearfully borne, Government more liberally supported, those who serve the Public better and more punctually paid, and greater Sums given from Time to Time to the King's Use, than could otherwise have well been raised.

Resolved, That if the Excise Act be extended but Four Years, and the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds* is to be sunk thereby in that Term, yearly Provincial Taxes by Poll and Pound Rates (always more grievous to the People) must probably in a short Time become necessary to defray the usual and contingent Expences of the Government.

Resolved, That if there really were, which is very uncertain, so great a Sum outstanding due to the Public, as, if collected, would be in the Disposition of the House, and sufficient to answer the present Emergency; yet, to inforce the Collection suddenly, by seizing and selling the Estates of the delinquent Borrowers, in this Time of Scarcity of Money, when so many Plantations being offered at once to Sale, could not probably find a sufficient Number of good Purchasers, and must consequently sell for much less than their real Value, would be cruel, oppressive and ruinous to the People.

Resolved, That the Right of Judging and Determining, not only of the Sum necessary to be raised for any public Service, but of the Time and Manner of raising it, and Term for paying it, is solely in the Representatives of the People; and that the Governors of this Province have not, nor ever had, nor can have, any Right to interfere therein, under Pretence of rectifying Mistakes, easing the People, on any other Pretence whatever.

Resolved, That a just, upright and prudent Administration of Government will always be the best and most effectual Means of obtaining and securing the Affections of the People; and that it is neither necessary nor expedient to deny the present Assembly the Exercise of their just Rights, that a future Governor may have an Opportunity of obliging a future Assembly by permitting it.

Resolved, That an Act of Parliament made expressly to remedy Disorders in the *Eastern* Governments, and in which this Province is neither named, nor intended, cannot by any Construction be supposed binding on the Governor or Assemblies of *Pennsylvania*.

Resolved, That to refuse a Grant of *Ten Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use at this critical Juncture, when the Service of the Crown, and the Welfare, present and future, of all the *British* Colonies, seem to the Governor so eminently to demand Supplies, merely from an Opinion in the Governor, that he can judge better than the People's Representatives what is most for their Ease, or that a future Governor may have an Opportunity of making himself acceptable, appears to this House to be sacrificing too much, to Considerations of uncertain and small Moment.

And the Governor, in his Message to this House of the First of *March* last, fully declaring how far, in his Opinion, the late Governor was, or could be bound by the Royal Instruction, directed to that Gentlemen in, 1740 (certainly not more binding on himself) being pleased to say, "That in the Year 1746 the late Governor, by his Majesty's Order, called upon the Assembly for a sufficient Quantity of Provisions for the Subsistance of the Troops to be raised here for the Reduction of *Canada; that* [*after some Messages relating to the Royal Instruction aforesaid*] they proceeded to pass a Bill for giving *Five Thousand Pounds* for the Use of the King,—to be sunk by a Tax in Ten Years, which Bill was afterwards enacted into a Law:—That he should be glad to know upon this State of the Fact, what are the Proofs that the late Governor agreed that the King's Instruction was not binding upon him, and that he acted in direct Opposition to it, since the very contrary was evident [*although*] he did, against the strict Letter of the Instruction, give his Assent to a Bill for striking *Five Thousand Pounds*, to replace what had been given to the King's Use:—That it must be obvious to every one, that the true and genuine Intention of that Instruction could relate ONLY to Emissions on COMMON and ordinary Occasions, by Means whereof the Evils and Inconveniences specified in the Body of the Instruction had arisen; and to prevent which for the future, appears clearly to have been the SOLE End and Purpose of the Instruction:—That if again, on the other Hand, it be considered, that the Sum emitted in this Province, by virtue of the Act of 1746, was VERY SMALL, and occasioned by a very real Emergency: —— That the same was appropriated solely to his Majesty's Use; and that the whole of it was to be sunk in a SHORT Space of Time by Taxes [i. e. by the Excise, extended for Ten Years] and WITHOUT THERE BEING THE LEAST PROBABILITY OF ITS PRODUCING ANY OF THE INCONVENIENCES COMPLAINED OF; we must necessarily allow, that the late Governor (however he might disregard the strict Letter) never departed from the Spirit and Intention of the Instruction; and therefore cannot properly be charged with having acted in direct Opposition to it: For it would be an Absurdity too glaring to suppose that any Government would voluntarily tie up the Hands of its Subjects from serving it, by such Means as they were able, in Cases of great Emergency: and that this could never have been any Part of his Majesty's Intention, or that of the Parliament, in addressing him, was further evident from the late Act respecting the Four *Eastern* Governments; who although prohibited on common and ordinary Occasions, yet, in Cases of real Emergency, are permitted to issue Bills of Credit, on Condition that sufficient Funds be provided for sinking the same in a SHORT Space of Time; WHICH WAS EXACTLY THE CASE WITH RESPECT TO THE SUM EMITTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND ASSEMBLY OF THIS PROVINCE:—— That hoping he had incontestably proved that the true and real Intention of the Royal Instruction could have been no other than to guard against the Abuses enumerated in the Body of it; and the Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, passed by the late Governor, in 1746, being a SINGULAR AND QUITE DIFFERENT NATURE from Acts passed upon ordinary Occasions, could not therefore be comprehended within the Meaning of the said Instruction:"—— *And the Governor proceeding to ask,* "Whether the Distinctions between an Act for emitting a large Sum of Money on a COMMON and ordinary Occasion, the Interest of which the Country is to reap the whole Benefit of, to be current for a long Term of Time, without Diminution and an Act DIRECTLY THE REVERSE of this in ALL RESPECTS, did never occur to them? —— And if these Distinctions did occur to them, —— with what Degree of Candour they could affect to consider them as one and the same Case, and thence take Occasion to charge him with having less Inclination to oblige the People than his Predecessor?" *And then being pleased to enquire. Whether the House did* "ever offer him a Bill of any Thing like the Tenor of that of 1746, that he refused his Assent to?" *Which, as he was* "persuaded they would not say it, How was it possible they should know, that, upon a like Occasion, he should be less willing than his Predecessors to oblige them?"

Resolved, That we have now offered the Governor a Bill for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to be sunk by extending the Excise for Ten Years (a Bill of the like Tenor of that of 1746, for granting the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to be sunk by extending the Excise for Ten Years) to which be has been pleased to refuse his Assent.

Resolved, That as the Governor acknowledged the Term of Ten years, for extending the Excise to sink the *Five Thousand Pounds,* was "a short Space of Time," and that "there was not the least Probability of that Act's producing any of the Inconveniences complained of:" —— The same Term of Ten Years for extending the Excise to sink *Ten Thousand Pounds,* must, in Consequence, be allowed a "short Space of Time;" and the Bill he now refuses being of the same Tenor, there cannot be "the least Probability of its producing the Inconveniences complained of; the preventing of which for the future appears clearly [to the Governor] to have been the sole End and Purpose of the Royal Instruction."

Resolved, That the Governor having, as he hoped, "incontestably proved, that the true and real Intention of the Royal Instruction could have been no other than to guard against the Abuses enumerated in the Body of it; and the Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, passed by the late Governor, in 1746, being of a SINGULAR AND QUITE DIFFERENT NATURE from Acts passed upon ordinary Occasion, could not be comprehended within the Meaning of the said Instruction." The Bill now offered to the Governor for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, being also of a SINGULAR AND QUITE DIFFERENT NATURE from Acts passed upon ordinary Occasions, and of the same Tenor with the Act passed in 1746, cannot be comprehended, by the Governor (unless he has very lately altered his Opinion) to be within the Meaning of the Royal Instruction; and therefore,

Resolved, That it is Our Opinion, that if the Governor is restricted by any Instruction from passing this Bill, it must be by some Instruction which he has never been pleased to lay before this House, —— and not the Royal Instruction, the Operation of which, against Bills of this Tenor, he hath so effectually invalidated.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Nineteenth Day of the Month called *August* next.

The Answer to the Governor's Messages, relating to the intended Treaty to beheld at *Albany*, being transcribed, was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have deliberately considered the Governor's several Messages, together with the Letters he has been pleased to lay before us, relating to the ensuing Treaty, to be held at *Albany*, in which we thankfully observe the Care he has taken "to obtain the best Intelligence he was able of what was proposed to be transacted at that Treaty for the general Benefit and Advantage of these Colonies, and of every other Thing relating thereto, which he conceived necessary for our Information." And as he has been pleased to request our Sentiments on the Instructions to be given the Gentlemen Commissioners on the Part of this Province, "to which he will pay the greatest Regard," we can do no less than return him our greatful Acknowledgments for his Condescension and Justice; and would chearfully comply therewith at this Time; but when we consider that no Propositions for an Union of the Colonies, in *Indian* Affairs, can effectually answer the good Purposes, or be binding, farther than they are confirmed by Laws, enacted under the several Government comprized in that Union; that we know not what Restrictions the Governor may lie under in passing our Acts; and that we have very little Reason to depend upon any Assistance in our *Indian* Expences, where, by a former Assembly, it has been respectfully addressed for, and where we think in justice we have a Right to expect it; we are, under these Circumstances, at a Loss to advise him on the important Articles he has been pleased to propose to our Consideration: Nevertheless, as we have already declared our Satisfaction in the Gentlemen the Governor has been pleased to name for this Commission, so we confide in their Abilities and Prudence to answer the Ends proposed in the Letter from the Lords of Trade, of the Eighteenth of *September* last, by renewing at this Interview the Covenant-Chain with the *Six Nations*, and by frustrating, as far as lies in their Power, any Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from the *British* Interest: And for this Purpose, in compliance with the said Letter from the Lords of Trade, we have now granted a Present to be made to those *Indians* on our Behalf; however inconvenient we may judge it to hold our Treaties at *Albany* on other Occasions."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Joshua Morris* wait upon the Governor with the said Message, and acquaint him, that the House seeing no Prospect of being farther useful to the Public in the present Sitting, and their private Affairs, in this busy Season of the Year, requiring their Attendance at their respective Homes, are inclined to adjourn this Day to the Nineteenth Day of the Month called *August* next.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *Thomas Jervis's* Accounts, for his Trouble and Expenses in going twice Express to *Virginia*, that it was their Opinion he ought to be allowed the Sum of *Thirty-three Pounds Five Shillings* and *One Penny*, in Discharge thereof; and that his other Account for keeping *Andrew Montour's* Horses, should be referred to the next Sitting of Assembly. The House agreeing to the Report of the Committee, an Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the said Sum of *Thirty-three Pounds Five Shillings* and *One Penny*.

Ordered, That the Trustees of the General Loan-Office do use their best Endeavours to collect, before the next Settlement of Accounts, as much of the outstanding Money due to the Province as they conveniently can.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had no Objection to the proposed Time of Adjournment; but desired that the Gentlemen would acquaint the House, "that as some Parts of the Minutes of Assembly of this Session may be necessary to be mentioned in the Representation the Governor finds himself obliged to make to his Majesty, in Answer to his Royal Order relating to the Invasion of his Dominions by the *French*, and and their *Indian* Allies: he desires the House will direct a Copy thereof to be delivered to him, or permit a Person, to be by him appointed, to take the same from their Journal as soon as conveniently may be."

Ordered, That the Minutes of this Sitting of Assembly be forthwith printed, and that the Governor have a Copy of them delivered to him as soon as finished.

The Governor also sent down by the Members who waited upon him with the Message of the House, a Letter he had just received from *Andrew Montour*, which was read.

Then the House adjourned to the Nineteenth Day of the Month called *August* next.

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this day in Assembly, the House accordingly met.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Trotter* wait upon the Governor and acquaint him, that the House are met, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them, and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should be at the Council Chamber by Eleven o'Clock this Morning, when he would send a Message to the House to require their Attendance; and that the House should be furished with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary;

SIR,

"The Governor requires the Attendance of the House in the Council Chamber."

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, who was pleased to make a Speech to this House, a Copy of which he had delivered to the Speaker; and informed him, that the Papers referred to therein, should be forthwith laid before the House by the Secretary.

The Governors Speech was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly, THE Importance of the several Matters I have now to lay before you, both to his Majesty's Service and to the Safety and Protection of the Inhabitants of this Province, will, I am persuaded, render any Apology for calling you together before the Time to which you stood adjourned, altogether unnecessary.

You will be pleased then to know, that I have lately received from the Commander in Chief of the Forces raised by *Virginia for* Defence of his Majesty's Dominions, an Account of those Forces having been attacked and entirely defeated by a superior Body of *French* Troops, assisted by a considerable Number of *Indians* under their Direction.

This daring Insult upon his Majesty's Subjects within the undoubted Limits of his Dominions, in a Time of profound Peace, very clearly points out the manifold Calamities we have Reason to apprehend on a Rupture between the two Crowns, from the Incursions of that bold and enterprizing People, in Conjunction with barbarous Nations of Savages, if they be permitted to strengthen themselves so near to the inhabited Parts of these Provinces. One principal Motive therefore of my hastening your Meeting was, that I might the sooner have an Opportunity of recommending to you a cheerful and vigorous Resolution of dislodging (with God's Assistance) from the Neighbourhood of our Settlements these Invaders of our Country; and that as little Time as possible might be lost in making the necessary Preparations for that Purpose.

This Measure therefore I now do in the most solemn Manner recommend to you; but as, on another Occasion, you expressed a Desire of acting in Concert with the Governor of *Virginia*, to whom the King was pleased to commit the Chief Direction of this Affair, and as I have not been informed by him, since this unfortunate Event, what his further Resolutions are, with respect to the Expedition, I at present forbear, in regard to your Opinion, pressing you to engage as Principals, until I shall be acquainted with his Determination upon that Head; which, in Consequence of my earnest Request, may be every Day expected; and when received shall immediately be communicated to you.

In the mean while it will be highly expedient, that, in order to save Time, you take into Consideration the most proper Way and Means of raising a Supply for this Service; in the doing of which, I flatter myself, you will industriously avoid whatever may be likely to occasion any Difference in Opinion between you and me, to the Detriment of the Common Cause, and Disappointment of his Majesty's just Expectations from us.

The unhappy Issue of the late Action between us and the *French* has already begun to create an additional Charge to the Public, as will appear by the Papers I shall order to be laid before you. By them you will be informed, that a Body of the *Six Nations*, in our Alliance, with the *Half King*, and other considerable Men at their Head, have been obliged, from a Dread of the *French Power*, to remove with their Families from the Places of their usual Residence, and to take Refuge within our Province, where many others are soon expected to join them: And as they are by this Means deprived of the Benefit of Hunting, by which their Families were principally supported, they have acquainted me, that they expect their Brethren of *Pennsylvania* should provide for them, while their Men will be engaged in the War against the Common Enemy. And in Compliance with their Expectations, which did not appear unreasonable, I have ordered a Quantity of Provisions to be delivered to them; not doubting but you will very chearfully make Provision for defraying the Expence that has already arisen, and will hereafter arise upon the same Occasion: Since nothing can be more just than that, while the Men are prevented of the Means of subsisting their Families, by their Attachment to his Majesty's Interest, and are actually employed in promoting it without Pay or Reward, their Wives and Children, who are incapable of syporting themselves, should be maintained at the Public Expence.

The People of *Cumberland*, and of the upper Parts of *Lancaster* County, are so apprehensive of Danger at this critical Juncture, from the Nearness of the *French*, and Savages under their Influences that the principal Inhabitants have, in the most earnest Manner, petitioned me to provide for their Protection; representing withal, that a great Number would be warm and active in Defense of themselves and their Country, were they enabled so to be, by being supplied with Arms and Ammunition, which many of them are unable to purchase at their own private Expence. The Substance of these several Petitions, which I shall likewise order to be laid before you, appears to me, Gentlemen, to be of the greatest Importance, and well worthy of your most serious Attention. You may be assured, that nothing which depends on me shall be wanting towards affording them the Protection they desire; but you cannot at the same Time but be sensible how little it is in my Power to answer their Expectations without the Aid of your House. It becomes then my indispensable Duty, and I cannot, on any Account whatever, excuse myself from pressing you to turn your Thoughts on the defenceless State of the Province in general, as well as of our Back Inhabitants in particular; and to provide such Means for the Security of the Whole, as shall be thought at once both reasonable and effectual to the Ends proposed; in which, as in every other Matter, consistent with my Honour, and the Trust reposed in me, I promise you my hearty Concurrence.

It is with great Satisfaction, that I now communicate to you the Proceedings of the Commissioners at the late Treaty at *Albany;* as, on Perusal thereof, you will clearly perceive, that the Lands on the River *Ohio* do yet belong to the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, and have long since been by them put under the Protection of the Crown of *England*. That the Proceedings of the *French*, in erecting Forts on that River, and in the Countries adjacent, have never received the Countenance or Approbation of those Nations; but, on the contrary, are expressly declared by them to have been without their Privity or Consent. That they are greatly alarmed at the rapid Progress of the *French*, and in severe Terms reproach us with supine Negligence, and the defenceless State of our Possessions; and, in Effect, call upon us to fortify our Frontiers, as well for the Security of their Countries as of our own. That, after a due and weighty Reflection on these several Matters, with many others of equal Importance, the Commissioners thought it necessary to consider of, and draw up, a Representation of the present State of the Colonies: And from thence, judging that no effectual Opposition was like to be made to the destructive Measures of the *French*, but by an Union of them all for their mutual Defence, devised likewise a general Plan for that Purpose, to be offered to the Consideration of their respective Legislatures.

And as both those Papers appear to me to contain Matters of the utmost Consequence to the Welfare of the Colonies in general, and to have been digested and drawn up with great Clearness and Strength of Judgment, I cannot but express my Approbation of them; and do therefore recommend them to you, as well worthy of your closest and most serious Attention."

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House one of the Writs by which the House were summoned, and sundry Papers referred to in his Speech, and others, entitled as follows, *viz.*

1. *A Letter from Colonel* James Innes *to Governor* Hamilton; *dated* Winchester, July 12, 1754.

2. *Capitulation granted by Monsieur* De Villier, *Captain and Commander of Infantry, and Troops of His most Christian Majesty, to those* English *Troops actually in the Fort of* Necessity, *which was built on the Lands of the King's Dominions,* July *the Third, at Eight o'Clock at Night,* 1754.

3. *A Letter from* Andrew Montour *to the Governor, dated* Winchester, July 21, 1754.

4. *A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County of* Cumberland *to the Governor, dated* July 15, 1754.

5. *A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of* Donnegall, *in* Lancaster *County, to the Governor, dated* July 26, 1754.

6. *A Petition from the Inhabitants of* Paxton, Derry *and* Hanover *Townships, in* Lancaster *County, to the Governor, dated* July 22, 1754.

7. *A Letter from* Ononraguite, *one of the Chiefs of the* Cagnawaga *Nation, living at the Falls of* St. Louis, *to one of* Albany *Commissioners of* Indian *Affairs, dated* June 14, 1754.

8. *Proceedings of the Congress, held at* Albany, *by the Honourable* James De Lancey, *Esq; Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of* New-York, *and the Commissioners of the several Provinces, met in the said City of* Albany, *the 19th of* June, 1754.

Some of the foregoing Papers were read, and the Remainder referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Remainder of the Papers, communicated by the Governor to the House in the Morning, were read, and the Whole ordered to lie on the Table for the Persual of the Members.

Sundry Accounts from the Mayor of *Albany*, for Sums paid him to the *Cagnawaga Indians*, for the Releasement of *Alexander Magenty, Jabez Evans, David Hendricks* and *William Powell*, were read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Sundry Letters from *Richard Patridge*, Agent, to the Committee of Correspondence, were laid before the House, and read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered, and the farther Consideration thereof was referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from the Inhabitants of *Donnegall*, in *Lancaster* County, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that this Province is now in a distressed Condition, being invaded by a cruel and formidable Enemy, at a Time when the Inhabitants are neither provided with Arms or Ammunition, nor under any Kind of Discipline; the Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that this House would, as being the Guardians of the People, take their present Circumstances into Consideration, and put those of them who are willing to defend themselves and Country into a proper Condition for Defence, and oblige such who are principled against appearing in Arms to contribute towards enabling those to do it who are not so principled, in such Manner as to the Wisdom of this House shall seem most meet. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

A Petition from a very considerable Number of the Inhabitants of the Townships of *Paxton*, *Hanover* and *Derry*, in the County of *Lancaster*, with a Recommendation of the said Petition, from the Grand Jury of the said County; was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners being settled on and near the River *Sasquehannah*, apprehended themselves in great Danger from the Neighbourhood of the *French* and *Indians* in their Alliance, as it is in their Power, at several Times in the Year, to transport themselves with Ammunition, and every other Necessary, down the said River; that the late Conduct of the *French*, towards some of the neighboring Provinces, makes the Petitioners dread a speedy visit from them, as being not only as near to the *French* as the other Provinces, but far less capable of defending themselves than they are, not having either Arms or Ammunition, or wherewithal to purchase them; that a great Number of the Inhabitants, in the Back Parts of this Province, are ready and wiling to exert themselves in the Defence of their Country, were they enabled so to do, although they are not of themselves a sufficient Number to withstand the Enemy: The Petitioners therefore humbly pray that this House would take the Premises into their most serious Consideration, and do therein what the present Circumstances of Affairs require

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered, and the further Consideration thereof referred to To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to consider the Accounts from the Mayor of *Albany*, for the Release of *Alexander Magenty*, &c. reported, that they had examined them, and were of Opinion, that the several Sums, amounting in the Whole to *Seventy-two Pounds Five Shillings* and *One Penny Halfpenny*, ought to be allowed by this House; to which the House assented.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Governor's Speech; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor commands me to acquaint the House, that Parties of *French* Deserters, from the Forts on the River *Ohio*, are daily arriving in this City. And as many of the Inhabitants are afraid to employ them, not knowing their Characters or Designs, or that there may not be really sufficient Employ for them, they are in Danger of being reduced to extreme Want; the Few who have hitherto in a great Measure supported them, not being able, or not inclining, to do it any longer: And therefore proposes it to the Consideration of the House, whether it might not be for the Public Service, that some small Reward should be given them, as an Encouragement for others to desert, or some Consideration offered to such as would employ them on reasonable Terms."

The House taking the foregoing Message into Consideration, *Resolved*, That the Sum of *Twenty Pounds* be paid out of the Provincial Treasury into the Hands of *Anthony Benezet*, to be by him laid out for the Relief and Maintenance of such *French* Deserters as are now in Town, or may hereafter arrive, in such Manner as he shall judge most suitable.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House again proceeded on the Consideration of the Governor's Speech; and, after some Time spent therein, the Question was put, *Whether the Sum of* Twenty Thousand

Pounds *should be now given to the King's Use? Past in the Negative.*

YEAS.

Evan Morgan,
Benjamin Franklin,
Griffith Owen,
William Smith,
Peter Dicks,
James Wright,
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy,
John Armstrong,
Joseph Armstrong,
William Parsons.

NAYS.

Edward Warner,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Joseph Fox,
William Callender,
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,
Samuel Brown,
William Hoge,

NAYS.

Jonathan Ingham,
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,
George Ashbridge
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
William Peters,
Joseph James,
Peter Worral,
Moses Starr.

Then the Question was put, *Whether the Sum of* Fifteen Thousand Pounds *shall be given to the King's Use at this Time? Past in the Negative.*

YEAS.

Evan Morgan,
Benjamin Franklin,
Griffith Owen,
William Smith,
George Ashbridge,
Peter Dicks,
James Wright,
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy,
John Armstrong,
Joseph Armstrong,
William Parsons.

NAYS.

Edward Warner,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Joseph Fox,
William Callender,
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,
Samuel Brown,

NAYS.

William Hoge,
Jonathan Ingham,
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
William Peters,
Joseph James,
Peter Worral,
Moses Starr.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds* be now given to the King's Use, to be sunk by an Extension of the Excise Act for the farther Term of Ten Years.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Twenty Thousand Pounds* be now struck, in Paper Bills of Credit, for exchanging the torn and ragged Bills now by Law current within this Province.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, Peter Dicks, James Wright, John Wright, Moses Starr* and *William Parsons* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a bill for the Purposes mentioned in the foregoing Resolves.

Resolved, That, till the next Sitting of Assembly, this House will, out of the Provincial Treasury, allow such reasonable

Charges as necessarily arise upon making a suitable Provision towards the Maintenance of those *Indians*, in our Alliance, as have taken Refuge within this Government.

Then the House adjourned for Half an Hour.

The House met, *&c.*

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read the first Time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Ten Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use *&c.* was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House a Copy of a Letter which he had received by Express from Governor *Dinwiddie*, dated *July* 31, 1754; and also a Copy in *French*, of the Capitulation of the *Virginia* Troops at Fort *Necessity*, which were read, and considered, and the Letter from Governor *Dinwiddie* was referred to farther Consideration To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Letter from the Governor of *Virginia* to Governor *Hamilton* was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

A Motion was made, that the Sum granted to the King's Use, in the Bill now before the house, be enlarged; and, after some Debate thereupon, the Question was put, *Whether the Sum of* Twenty Thousand Pounds should be inserted in the *said Bill, as given to the King's Use? Past in the Negative.*

YEAS.	YEAS.	NAYS.
Evan Morgan,	*Edward Warner,*	*Jonathan Ingham,*
Benjamin Franklin,	*Joseph Trotter,*	*Thomas Cummings,*
Griffith Owen,	*Joshua Morris,*	*Nathaniel Pennock,*
Derrick Hogeland,	*Hugh Evans,*	*George Ashbridge*
William Smith,	*Joseph Stretch,*	*Joseph Gibbons,*

Peter Dicks,	*Joseph Fox,*	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
James Wright,	*William Callender,*	*William Peters,*
Calvin Cooper,	*Mahlon Kirkbride,*	*Joseph James,*
John Wright,	*Samuel Brown,*	*Peter Worral,*
David M'Connaughy,	*William Hoge,*	*Moses Starr.*
John Armstrong,		
Joseph Armstrong,		
William Parsons.		

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* be inserted in the said Bill, as given to the King's Use.

YEAS.	YEAS.	NAYS.
Evan Morgan,	*George Ashbridge*	*Edward Warner,*
Hugh Evans,	*Joseph Gibbons,*	*Joseph Trotter,*
Joseph Stretch,	*Peter Dicks,*	*Joshua Morris,*
Benjamin Franklin,	*Joseph James,*	*Joseph Fox,*
William Callender,	*James Wright,*	*Samuel Brown,*
Mahlon Kirkbride,	*Calvin Cooper,*	*Thomas Cummings,*
William Hoge,	*John Wright,*	*William Peters,*
Griffith Owen,	*David M'Connaughy,*	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
Derrick Hogeland,	*John Armstrong,*	*Peter Worral,*
Jonathan Ingham,	*Joseph Armstrong,*	
William Smith,	*Moses Starr,*	
Nathaniel Pennock,	*William Parsons,*	

At the said Sum of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* was inserted in the Bill accordingly.

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty-five Thousand Pounds*, in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do Pass.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and acquaint him, that the House desire his Concurrence thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty-five Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use *&c.* report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into Consideration, and give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

Sundry Accounts from *Richard Patridge* and *Robert Charles* Esquires, were laid before the House, and read, and committed to the Committee of Accounts.

The Speaker, in Behalf of the Superintendents of the State-house, desired the Opinion of the House whether they should send the old Bell to *England* in Part Pay for the new One they had purchased (as they had a Right to do by their Agreement) or keep them both for public Use.

Resolved, That the said Superintendants do pay for the new Bell, and keep the old One for such Uses as this House may hereafter appoint.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, Mahlon Kirkbride, George Ashbridge, Calvin Cooper, David M'Connoughy* and *John Armstrong* be a Committee to inspect and settle the Accounts of the incidental Charges of the current Year.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Robert Callender* and *Michael Teaff, Indian* Traders, was laid before the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners being at *Allegheney* about the Tenth of *May* last (the Time that the *French* came down the River *Ohio)* had there sundry Goods unsold; that the *Half King* and *Big Kettle*, two *Indian* Chiefs, requested the Petitioners, that as their Enemies the *French* were near at Hand, and the Ammunition and other Necessaries of the *Indians* were scarce, they would spare them a Part of those they had there for Sale, and charge it to their Brethren of *Pennsylvania*, and if they scrupled to pay them, they, the *Indians*, would pay; that upon these Considerations, the Petitioners did accordingly deliver to the said *Indians* sundry Goods (as particularized in an Account annexed to their Petition) to the Value of *Eighty-four Pounds;* the Petitioners therefore pray that this house would consider the Premises, and make an Allowance to them for the said Goods, as they are now deprived, by reason of the Encroachments of the *French*, of all Hopes of being paid by the *Indians*. And the Petition farther sets forth, that *Robert Callender*, one of the Petitioners, came down Express to his Honour the Governor, about two Years ago, to bring an Account of the Attack then made by the *French* and their *Indians*, on the *English* and *Indians* in the *Pict Town*, near the River *Ohio;* and had also been at a considerable Expence in sending an Express to the Governor with the News of the late Defeat of the *Virginia* Forces at Fort *Necessity;* and therefore praying that such Allowance may be made him for the said Services, as to the Wisdom of this House shall seem most proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, and adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Accounts of the Agent, and *Robert Charles*, and were of Opinion they ought to be allowed; to which Report the House agreed.

The Trustees of the Province Island laid before the House a State of their Accounts, which were read; whereby it appeared, that there was a Balance of *Eighty-six Pounds Four Shillings* in their Hands, due to the Province.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbridge* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House having near gone through the Business before them, desire to know when they may expect his Result upon the Bill now under his Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, the House should hear from him this Afternoon.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for striking *Thirty-five Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, and for applying the Remainder to Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto, which were read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein;

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Joseph Armstrong* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and acquaint him, that the House were in Hopes this Bill could not fail to have received the Governor's Assent; but as he has objected to the inserting his name in the Bill, for receiving or ordering the Disposal of the Money thereby granted they have complied with his request, and instead thereof have made it payable to the Lieutenant Governor of this Province for the Time being, in conjunction with the other Gentlemen therein named, and request he would be pleased to pass it as it now stands, for the House cannot admit of any other Alteration in the Bill.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking *Thirty-five Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, *&c.* and the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would return an Answer to the House as soon as conveniently he could.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor promised himself from the Request he made to the House in his Speech at the Opening of the Session, that (considering the Importance of the Occasion) they would have fallen upon some Method of raising Money for the King's Use, to which he might have had no material Objection; and could not therefore help being extremely mortified at finding the Bill now presented him for that Purpose, to be not only formed on the said Plan, but to be nearly of the same Tenor with that to which he refused his Assent at their last Meeting. He has nevertheless complied with the Proffer he then made them, and has agreed to extend the Fund they had chosen to raise Money upon, in the same Proportion as they have encreased the Sum granted to his Majesty. But the House is peremptory, and will admit of no Alteration in their Bill. All then that remains, after assuring them, that the Governor, lest the King's Service should suffer, has strained his Powers even beyond what he almost dares think consistent with his Safety, is to submit our respective Conduct to the Judgement of our Superiors. But he hopes this also may be rendered unnecessary by the Arrival of the Gentlemen that is to succeed him in the Administration, who may every Day be looked for among us; and who may possibly think himself more at Liberty, with respect to the Matter in Controversy, than the Governor can pretend to do. In the mean while it is hoped no considerable Detriment may arise to his Majesty's Affairs in the short Interval between this and the Time of his actual Arrival.

"So much has already been said upon this Subject on another Occasion, that the Governor declines any farther Enlargement thereon, as well knowing, that public Disputes of this Nature frequently terminate in private Animosities, which he is very desirous of avoiding, and therefore only expects from the House that they will do him the same Justice he is willing to do them, in supposing him to act from his Judgment, when he tells them, that he cannot recede from his Amendments."

The Committee appointed to audit and settle the Public Accounts, made their report in Writing, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

A Petition from *John Bassonet* and *Peter White* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners became bound with *John Hall*, late Collector of the Excise for the County of *Bucks*, for the Discharge of his Office in such Manner as the Law requires; that the said *Hall*, when indebted to the Province, on Account of his said Office, became insolvent; that the Provincial Treasurer brought an Action against the Petitioners, and obtained a Judgment for a Sum exceeding *Eighty Pounds;* that the Costs of Suit and, other Charges thereon, are very considerable; that the Petitioners can have no Relief without the Aid and Assistance of this House; that their Circumstances are such, that their being obliged to discharge the Sum recovered against them will be of great Injury to their Families; they therefore humbly pray for such Favour as to the Wisdom of this House shall seem meet.

The House taking the said Petition into Consideration; *Ordered*, That the same be rejected.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Petition of *Robert Callender* and *Michael Teaff* was again read, and considered, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, referred to farther Consideration.

Resolved, That this House will To-morrow adjourn to the Thirtieth Day of *September* next.

Ordered, That *Joseph Hamton* and *Peter Worral* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House having near gone through the Business before them, propose to adjourn To-morrow to the Thirtieth Day of *September* next, if he hath no Objection thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had no Objection to the proposed Time of Adjournment.

The Part of the Governor's Speech, relating to the Plan of Union among the several *British* Colonies on this Continent, was read; and, after a considerable Debate whether the said Plan should be either recommended or referred to the Consideration of the succeeding Assembly, the Question was put, upon Motion made, that the said Plan of Union be referred to the Consideration of the next succeding Assembly?

Past in the Negative?

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

An Account of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Commissioners of this Province, for the late Treaty at *Albany*, was laid before the House, and read, by which it appeared, that there is a Balance of *Twenty-seven Pounds* and *Six-pence* in their Hands, due to the Province.

Ordered, That the said Balance be paid into the Hands of the Trustees of the Loan-Office, to be accounted for by them hereafter.

The Committee of Incidental Charges, to whom the Petition and Accounts of *Robert Callender* and *Michael Teaff* were referred, reported, that they were of Opinion, that the Articles therein contained, were not properly and sufficiently certified to this House, so as to entitle the Petitioners to the Allowances prayed for in their Petition; —— to which the House agree.

Ordered, That the Minutes of this Sitting be printed as soon as conveniently may be.

Ordered, That all the Bills and Petitions, now remaining undertermined before the House, be referred to the Consideration of the succeeding Assembly.

The Report of the Committee of Accounts was approved of, and allowed by the House and is as follow, *viz.*

WE, *the* COMMITTEE *appointed by the Assembly of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *to audit and settle the Accounts of the* GENERAL-LOAN-OFFICE, *and other Public Accounts; to sink and destroy the Bills of Credit, received in Exchange, pursuant to the Paper-Money Acts; and to count all the Money, and report what Sums we should actually find in the Trustees Hands*, REPORT,

THAT, on the Fifteenth of Seventh Month, we counted the Money in the Hands of the Trustees of the Loan-Office, and found the Sum of	£ 5,734 11 6
That, upon a strict Examination of all the Mortgage-Deeds (whereon any Quotas are due) taken by Virtue of all the Acts of Assembly for	. . . .

emitting Paper-Bills, and now remaining in the Loan-Office undischarged,			
We find there are principal Sums or Quotas theron to become due (after the Fifteenth of the Seventh Month last) payable to the Trustees, the Sum of	£49,582 13 4		
That the Quotas outstanding and then due on all the Mortgagee-Deeds in the said Office amounted to	19,552 9 2		
		£69,135 2 6	
That it appears by a List of 102 Mortgages, taken on the Seventh Re-emission of the second £80,000 Act, there has been lent out thereon the Sum of	6,601 10 0		
And by a List of 41 Mortgages, taken on the eighth Re-emission of the same Act, the Sum of	3,038 0 0		
That several Sums lent the City of Philadelphia are not yet repaid, viz.			
The Balance of the first Sum lent the said City	156 0 0		
The Balance of the Sum lent the said City, for building Alms-houses, ...	187 10 0		
		£ 9,983 0 0	
		£79,118 2 6	
Balance in the Trustees Hands,		881 17 6	
			£80,000 0 0
THAT the Trustees, on Account of Interest, are Charged with the Balance due to the Province at last Settlement, in 1753, ...	£ 1,959 10 6½		
And with the Interest outstanding on all the Mortgage Deeds at last Settlement, ..	7,688 4 7		
To the Interest arising on all the Mortgage-Deeds for the current Year, ...	3,016 6 3½		
To the Interest at Discharge, and broken Interest, ...	1,127 17 9		
		£13,791 19 2	
That the Trustees have Credit for the Interest, which upon a careful Examination of Endorsements upon all the Mort-			

gage-Deeds in the Loan-Office, appears to have been outstanding and due on the 15th of the Seventh Month last, amounting to	£ 8,460	12	3	
By Cash paid sundry Orders for Assembly-Men's Wages, ...	453	13	0	
Paid Isaac Norris, Benjamin Franklin and Richard Peters, for the Present and Charges at Carlisle Treaty, ...	1,179	19	6	
Paid Richard Hockley, for the Proprietaries, as ordered by Law, ...	130	0	0	
Paid the Superintendents of the State-house, ...	200	0	0	
Paid Ditto, ...	200	0	0	
Paid Samuel Kirk, for Fire-wood, ...	3	13	6	
Paid Benjamin Franklin, for printing the second Volume of Votes, ...	300	5	0	
Paid Anthony Benezet, allowed by the House, for some French men, ...	10	0	0	
Paid Isaac Norris, to buy Glass,	34	0	0	
Paid Jabez Evans, per Order of the House, ...	1	0	0	
Paid Isaac Norris, Benjamin Franklin and Richard Peters, for the Present and Charges at Albany Treaty, ...	670	6	0	
To Cash paid Isaac Norris, for Robert Charles, towards a Bell, ...	170	0	0	
Paid Trustees Salary, ...	500	0	0	
Paid Charles Brockden, in full for Mortgages, ...	221	10	0	
By Allowance per Law for exchanging £516 5 10, at 55s. per Thousand, ...	1	11	6	
	£12,536	15	9	
Balance due to the Province,	1,255	3	5	
				£13,791 19 2

WE do likewise report, that we have examined the Provincial Treasurer's Account, and find, that he Charges the Province with the several Sums following, viz

To Cash paid John Smith, per Order, ...	£ 9	18	0
Ditto paid Thomas Cummings, per Order	3	0	0

Ditto paid Edward Kelly, per Ditto, ...	10	11	7½
Ditto paid Ezekiel Dunning, per Ditto, ...	11	0	0
Ditto paid Samuel Kirk, per Ditto, ...	8	0	0
Ditto paid Conrad Weiser, per Ditto, ...	58	14	2
Ditto paid Andrew Montour, per Ditto, ...	8	0	0
Ditto paid Conrad Weiser, per Ditto, ...	25	5	0
Ditto paid John Arts, per Ditto, ...	2	0	0
Ditto paid Lynford Lardner, per Ditto, ...	8	0	6
Ditto paid Richard Peters, per Ditto, ...	46	17	0
Ditto paid Ditto, his Salary,	15	0	0
Ditto paid William Allen, Esq; Chief Judge, ...	200	0	0
Ditto paid Charles Stow, ...	1	17	6
Ditto paid Charles Brockden,	3	18	4
Ditto paid William West, for carrying Expresses to Ohio	22	5	1½
Ditto paid Caleb Cowpland, Esq; one of the Supreme Judges, ...	60	0	0
Ditto paid Lawrence Growden, Esq; one of the Supreme Judges, ...	60	0	0
Ditto paid Mary Burden, per Order, ...	5	0	0
Ditto paid Evan Morgan, per Ditto, ...	3	6	0
Ditto paid Plunket Fleeson, per Ditto, ...	1	2	0
Ditto paid William Franklin, per Ditto, ...	35	1	0
Ditto paid Ditto, per Ditto,	12	0	0
Ditto paid George Ashbridge, to be delivered by him to Thomas Jervis, Richard Richardson, &c. on Account of the Discovery of Eleanor Davis's Murderers, ...	25	0	0
Ditto paid Alexander M'Genty, per Order, ...	6	0	0
Ditto paid Benjamin and William Franklin for Postage of Letters, ...	19	19	9
Ditto paid Benjamin Franklin, per Order, ...	50	0	0
Ditto paid Ditto, per Ditto,	24	5	0

Ditto paid Samuel Morris, Sheriff, for Trial and Execution of Daniel Hurly, ...	8 16 0		
Ditto paid Isaac Norris, per Order, ...	30 0 0		
Ditto paid Isaac Norris, £100 Sterling, for Richard Partridge, ...	167 10 0		
Ditto paid Ditto, £50 Sterling, for Robert Charles, ..	83 15 0		
Ditto paid Hannah Boyd, for Andrew Montour, per Order,	6 14 4		
Ditto paid Richard Peters, for George Croghan, per Ditto, ..	73 2 0		
Ditto paid John Patten, for going a Message to Ohio, &c.	50 0 0		
Ditto paid Edward Warner, per Order, ...	9 0 0		
Ditto paid Richard Peters, for the Governor, ...	500 0 0		
Ditto paid Isaac Norris, for the Agent in London, £100 Sterling, ...	170 0 0		
Ditto paid James Foley, for an Express from the Ohio,	18 5 0		
Ditto paid Joseph Armstrong, for John Harris per Order,	20 0 0		
Ditto paid Isaac Norris, for Hermanus Alrichs, per Ditto,	5 0 0		
Ditto paid Thomas Jervis, for going on Expresses to Virginia, ...	33 5 1		
Ditto paid Isaac Norris, to defray the Commissioners Charges to Albany, ...	100 0 0		
Ditto paid Benjamin Franklin, for Ditto, per Order, ...	100 0 0		
Ditto paid Isaac Norris, for Andrew Montour, per Ditto,	79 1 4		
Ditto paid Hugh Roberts, per Ditto, ...	9 0 0		
Ditto paid Charles Norris, in Part of £5000 granted by the Assembly for the King's Use, which is to sunk, ...	500 0 0		
Ditto paid Charles Norris, in Part of Ditto, ...	500 0 0	£ 3,199 9 9	
To Commissions on the above, at Five per Cent.		159 19 5¾	
Balance due to the Province,		462 10 10¾	£ 3,822 0 1½
THAT he Credits the Province for Balance due at the last Settlement, Eighth Month, 29, 1753, ...		£ 1,108 14 5	

And by Cash received of Joseph Redman, Collector of the Excise for the City and County of Philadelphia, ...	2,090 3 0½	
By Ditto of Jeremiah Starr, Collector of the Excise for the County of Chester, ...	219 18 6	
By Ditto of Daniel Craig, Collector of Northampton, ...	19 1 0	
By Ditto of John Woolston, Collector of Bucks, ...	212 5 1	
By Ditto of Arthur Patterson, Collector of Lancaster, ...	50 0 0	
By Ditto of David M'Connaughy, Collector of York, ...	22 3 6	
By Ditto of John Hughes, Collector of Berks, ...	97 14 7	
By Ditto of James Lindsay, Collector of Cumberland, ...	2 0 0	
		£ 3,822 0 1½
THAT Joseph Redman returns an outstanding Debt of Judah Foulke, the former Collector, as per his Account last Year,		£ 157 10 4
THAT we have examined the Accounts of Joseph Redman, Collector of the Excise for the City and County of Philadelphia, and find,		
That he Credits the Province, by Balance due at last Settlement, ...	£ 168 8 10	
By the Amount of Excise from June 1, 1753, to June 1, 1754, ...	2,030 13 0	
By sundry Retailers, at Three Pounds per Annum, ...	190 10 0	
By the Moiety of Fines, as per [illegible]	5 0 0	
		£ 2,394 11 10
That he Charges the Province with Cash paid Michael Lightfoot, Provincial Treasurer, ..	£ 2,090 3 0	
To his Commissions thereon, at Five per Cent, ...	104 10 2	
To Allowance made him by the Assembly for Collecting Judah Foulke's Outstandings, for the Sum of £575, at Five per Cent, ...	28 15 0	
Balance due to the Province,	171 3 8	
		£ 2,394 11 10

THAT it appears by the Report of the Committee last Year,

there remained in the Hands of the Trustees to exchange old and ragged Bills, ...	£ 3,818 12 6
And we do further report, that we have burnt and destroyed of the ragged Bills, ...	516 5 10
Which leaves in the Hands of the Trustees, for exchanging ragged Bills, ...	£ 3,302 6 8

And lastly, we report, that in Pursuance of the Act that gave £5000 to the Kings Use, We have burnt and destroyed the Sum of One Thousand Pounds.

Submitted to the Correction of the House, 8th Month 15, 1754.

EDWARD WARNER,
WILLIAM CALLENDER,
JOSEPH FOX."

Then the several Orders for the Payment of the Members Wages, the Salaries of Officers, and other Incidental Charges, being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

The House adjourned to the 30th of *September* next.

An an ASSEMBLY *held in* PHILADELPHIA, *the Fourteenth Day of* OCTOBER, ANNO DOMINI 1754.

BY the Returns of the Sheriffs of the respective Counties, it appears that the following Gentlemen were duly chosen on the First and Second Instant, to serve in Assembly as Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, for the Year ensuing, *viz.*

For *Philadelphia* County
Isaac Norris,
Evan Morgan,
Hugh Evans,
Joseph Stretch,
Edward Warner,
Joseph Fox,
Joshua Morris,
Joseph Trotter,

For *Philadelphia City*
Benjamin Franklin,
William Callender,

For *Bucks* County
Joseph Hampton,
William Hoge,
Jonathan Ingham,
Samuel Brown,

For *Chester* County
George Ashbridge,
Joseph Gibbons,
Peter Dicks,
Thomas Cummings,
Nathaniel Pennock,
Nathaniel Grubb,
Joseph James,
William Peters,

For *Lancaster* County
Arthur Patterson,
Peter Worral,

For *York* County.
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy,

For *Cumberland* County.
Joseph Armstrong,
John Smith,

For *Berks* County.
Moses Starr,

For *Bucks* County.
Mahlon Kirkbride,
William Smith,
Griffith Owen,
Derrick Hogeland,

For *Lancaster* County
James Wright,
Calvin Cooper,

For *Northampton* County
James Burnside,

And a Quorum of the Representatives being met, proceeded, according to the Charter of Privileges and Laws of this Province, to the Choice of a Speaker; and ISAAC NORRIS, Esq; was unanimously chosen Speaker of this House for the Year ensuing, and accordingly placed in the Chair.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, William Callender, Mahlon Kirkbride, George Ashbridge, James Wright, John Wright, Joseph Armstrong, Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives have met, and proceeded to the Choice of a Speaker, and desire to know when he will be pleased to receive the House, that they may present their Speaker.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would be ready to receive the House this Morning, at Eleven o'Clock, in the Council Chamber.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House with their Speaker."

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, and presented their Speaker, and that the Governor was pleased to approve their Choice. That the Speaker had then, in the Name and Behalf of the House, claimed the usual privileges, *viz.*

That the better to discharge the Business of the Public, they may at all seasonable Times have free Access to the Governor.

That their Persons and Estates may be protected from all Arrests and Insults during the Time of Privileges accustomed.

That it would please the Governor to take no Notice of any Report that may be made, touching any Matter or Thing that may be moved or debated in the House, until the same shall have passed into a Resolve, nor give the least Credit to such Report. And lastly,

That his own (the Speaker's) unwilling Mistakes may be excused, and not imputed to the House.

All which he had requested as the just Rights and Privileges of the Freemen of *Pennsylvania*, derived and confirmed to them by the Charters and Laws of the Province. And that the Governor was pleased to say, that he not only confirmed those Rights and Privileges to the House, but should be always ready to confirm any others that they were entitled by Law to demand. And likewise that the Governor acquainted the House, that, by the Time they had taken their respective Qualifications, he should have something ready to communicate to them, and should therefore again require their Attendance by the Secretary.

Then the Qualifications by Law appointed, were taken and subscribed, first by the Speaker in the Chair, and then at the Table by all the rest of the Members present, in their Order.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor requires the Attendance of the House in the Council Chamber immediately."

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, who was pleased to make a Speech to this House, a Copy of which he had delivered to the Speaker.

The Governor's Speech was read at the Table, by Order and follows in these Words, *viz.*

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of Assembly,

'ON Mr. *Hamilton's* Resignation, the Honourable Proprietaries were pleased to appoint me to the Command of this Province: And as I am persuaded they have nothing more at Heart than the Welfare and Prosperity of the People, I flatter myself, their Choice of me was from the Opinion they entertained, that I would, to the utmost of my Power, promote the general Happiness; in which it shall be my earnest Endeavour not to disappoint them: I therefore take this early Opportunity of assuring you, that I shall, upon all Occasions, be studious to protect the People committed to my Charge in the Enjoyment of all their Civil and Religious Privileges, and at the same Time be careful to maintain the just Rights of Government, as equally conducive to the Public Good.

The particular Matter I have at present to recommend to your Consideration, is the State of the Frontiers of this and the neighbouring Governments, where you will find the *French* acting with a steady Uniformity and avowed Resolution to make themselves Masters of this Country. Their Encroachments upon his Majesty's Territories, and their hostile Proceedings in this Time of Peace, may shew us what we are to expect in Case of open War, if we suffer them to strengthen themselves in the Possession of that Country they have so unjustly seized, and from whence they may not only annoy us, by the *Indians* in their Alliance, but can at any Time march a Body of Troops into this plentiful Province, situated in the Center of the *British* Dominions in *America*.

I am sure I need only mention to you the arbitrary and tyrannical Nature of their Government, and the detestable Principles of their Religion, to convince you of the unhappy Condition these Colonies will be reduced to, should they ever become subject to the *French*. I do therefore, in his Majesty's Name, earnestly recommend it to you to exert yourselves at this critical Juncture in Defence of your Country, while their Numbers are small, and before they have established themselves in their present Situation; and shall only observe, that if this Opportunity be lost, it is not likely we shall ever have another so favourable.

'If, when you shall think it a proper Season to proceed to private Business, you shall find any Laws wanting for the better Government of the Province, I shall be ready to enter upon the Consideration of what you shall propose, and give my Consent to such as I shall judge reasonable, and for the Public Utility."

Resolved, That *William Franklin* be Clerk to this House for the Year ensuing.

And he took and subscribed the usual Qualifications accordingly.

Resolved, That *Samuel Kirk* be Serjeant at Arms to this House for the ensuing Year.

Resolved, That *Edward Kelly* be Door-keeper to this House for the Year ensuing.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Trotter* do procure from the Rolls Office a Copy of the Governor's Commission, and the King's Approbation; and bring them to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be, with the Speaker, a Committee of Correspondence.

Ordered, that *Joseph Fox, Joseph Trotter, Benjamin Franklin, George Ashbridge* and *Peter Worral* be a Committee of Grievances for the Year ensuing; and they have Power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Joseph Fox, Joseph Stretch, William Callender, Joseph Hamton* and *Thomas Cummings* be a Committee to audit and settle the Accounts of the General Loan-Office, and other Public Accounts: and to sink and destroy the Bills of Credit received in Exchange, pursuant to the late Paper-Money Acts; and to count all the Monies, and report, together with the said Accounts, the Sum they shall actually find in the Trustees Hands; and they have Power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Benjamin Franklin* be a Committee to revise the Minutes before they are printed.

Resolved, That *Michael Lightfoot* be Treasure of this Province for the ensuing Year.

Resolved, That *Richard Patridge*, Esq; be Agent of this Province at the Court of *Great-Britain* for the ensuing Year.

Resolved, That *Fifty Pounds Sterling* be allowed *Robert Charles* Esq; as an Assistant to the Agent for the ensuing Year.

A Petition from *Spencer Trotter*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that as the Office of Collector of the Duties imposed on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and others, imported into this Province, is now become vacant by the Death of *George Spofford*, the late Collector thereof, the Petitioner prays that this House would be pleased to appoint him to the said Office.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *Richard Sewell*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be appointed the Officer for collecting the Duties imposed on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and others, imported into this Province, was presented to the House and read; and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *Thomas Bourne*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner hath, at the Appointment and Request of *George Spofford*, during his late Illness, collected the Duties imposed on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and others, imported into this Province, and hath continued in the Execution thereof since the Decease of the said *George*, the late Collector, to the general Satisfaction of all Persons concerned; the Petitioner therefore prays that this House would be pleased to appoint him the Officer for collecting the said Duties.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *John Knowles*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be appointed the Officer for collecting the Duties imposed on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and others, imported into this Province, was presented to the House and read; and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered; and the further Consideration thereof was referred to To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered by Paragraphs; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor sends to the House several Letters, Accounts, and Papers, relating to *Indian* Affairs; whence they will know what has passed in this Branch of Business, since the Sitting of the last Assembly, and judge what may be further necessary for them to do at this Sitting."

The Papers sent down by the Governor were read at the Table; and they are severally entituled as follows, *viz.*

1. *A Letter to Governor* Hamilton *from* George Groghan; *dated* Aughwick Old Town, August 16, 1754.
2. *A Copy of a Letter from Governor* Hamilton to George Croghan; *dated* Philadelphia, August 23, 1754.
3. *A Letter to Governor* Hamilton *from* Conrad Weiser; *dated* Heidelberg, *in the County of* Berks, September 13, 1754.
4. *A Letter to Governor* Hamilton *from* George Croghan; dated August 30, 1754.
5. *A Letter to Governor* Hamilton *from* George Croghan; *dated* September 27, 1754.
6. *A Letter to Governor* Hamilton *from* John Harris; *dated* Paxton, October 5, 1754 Sundry Accounts paid by *Conrad Weiser*, for the Maintenance and Support of the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, were also laid before the House by the Secretary, and read; and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentelmen appointed to procure a Copy of the Governor's Commission, and the King's Approbation, report, that they had been with the Master of the Rolls, who informed them, that he was then recording the said Commission and Approbation; and, as soon as he had finished, would make out a Copy thereof for the Use of the House.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *William Hill*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be appointed the Officer for collecting the Duties imposed on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and others, imported into this Province, was presented to the House and read; and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Petitions of *Spencer Trotter*, *Richard Sewell*, *John Knowles*, *Thomas Bourne* and *William Hill* were again severally read, in their Order; and, after a considerable Debate, the Question was put, *Whether* Spencer Trotter *shall be appointed the Officer for collecting the Duties imposed on Persons convicted of heinous Crimes, and others, imported into this Province?*

To which Question *Sixteen* Members arose, and *Fifteen* sat, besides the Speaker in the Chair. But the *Fifteen* calling upon the Speaker to declare his Vote, a considerable Debate arose, *Whether the Speaker, in this Case, had a Right to a Vote?* And, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from *Lewis Evans*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner hath, with much Labour and Expense, prepared Materials for a Map of this and four of the neighbouring Colonies; the Country of the *Six Nations* from Lake *Champlain*, its North-Eastern Extremity, to the Falls of *Ohio;* the Lakes *Champlain*, *Ontario* and *Erie;* the Routes from *Albany* to *Oswego*, and, by *Crown Point*, to *Canada* (the latter being the pass that the *French* and *Indians* harrass the Governments of *New-York* and *New-England* by;) the Routes from *Canada* to *Yawgra*, *Ohio* and *Detroit*, and by the *Outawas* River, and the Lake *Huron* to *Detroit* (being for the greatest Part their usual Way to the Western Nations;) and the Connection and Situation of the *English* and *French* Colonies with the Land of the *Six Nations*, the undoubted Property of the King of *Great-Britain*, a Country equal in Magnitude to all the Plantations yet made by the *English* on this Continent: That the Petitioner is unable to support the Expense of Engraving and Printing the said Map, and of printing an Analysis containing his Authority for every Part thereof, as well as a Description of all the remoter Parts, and the Manner of Traveling from Place to Place through the Countries destitute of common Roads; the Petitioner therefore prays that this House would grant him such Assistance in the Premises as to their Wisdom shall seem meet.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Gentlemen appointed to procure a Copy of the Governor's Commission, and the King's Approbation, brought the same to the House, where it was read, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes of this Sitting.

And the said Commission, and Approbation, are as follows, *viz.*

THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, true and absolute Proprietaries, and Governors in Chief of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and Counties of *New-Castle, Kent* and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*, to ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, *Greeting:* WHEREAS the late King CHARLES the Second, by his Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of *England*, bearing Date the Fourth Day of *March*, in the Thirty-third Year of his Reign, was graciously pleased to grant unto WILLIAM PENN, Esquire, the late Father of the said THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, and since deceased, his Heirs and Assigns, the said Province of *Pennsylvania*, with large Powers, Jurisdictions and Authorities, for the Well-governing, Safety, Defence and Preservation of the said Province, and the People residing therein; and more particularly, to do, and perform sundry Matters and Things therein mentioned, either by himself, or his Deputies or Lieutenants, as by the said Letters Patent, Relation being thereunto had, may more fully appear. AND WHEREAS the late King JAMES the Second, before he came to the Crown, by the Name of James, Duke of *York* and *Albany*, being rightfully possessed of a certain Tract of Land, lying on the West-side of the Bay and River of *Delaware*, now commonly called and known by the Name or Names of the Counties of *New-Castle, Kent* and *Sussex*, upon *Delaware;* and being likewise invested with sundry Royalties, Privileges, Immunities, Powers, Jurisdictions and Authorities, for the Defence, Safety, Preservation and Well-governing of the said Tract of Land, and the Inhabitants thereof; did, by certain Deeds, duly executed, and bearing Date as therein mentioned, Give and Grant, unto the said WILLIAM PENN, his Heirs and Assigns, the said Tract of Land, lying on the West-side of the Bay and River of *Delaware*, with all and every the said Royalties, Privileges, Immunities, Powers, Jurisdictions and Authorities, which he the said Duke of *York* stood then invested with as aforesaid, as by such Deeds, Relation being thereunto had, may more fully appear. NOW KNOW YE, that We, reposing special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty to the King, and in your Prudence, Conduct and Integrity, *Do*, by Virtue of the said Letters Patent, and Deeds, Depute, Constitute, Nominate, and Appoint you the said ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS to be Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties, *Giving and hereby Granting* unto full Power and Authority, to exercise, execute, and put in Practice, in ample Manner, all and every the Powers, Jurisdictions and Authorities, so granted unto the said WILLIAM PENN, his Heirs and Assigns, by the said Letters Patent and Deeds, as shall be necessary and convenient, for the Safety, Well-being, Defence, Preservation and Well-governing of the said Province and Counties and the People thereof, hereby committed and entrusted to your Care and Charge. *And Generally* at all Times, and upon all Occasions, when proper and convenient to exercise, do, execute, act and perform, all and all Manner of Powers, Authorities, Acts military, and all other Matters and Things whatsoever, requisite and necessary for the good Order of Government, for the Administring, Maintaining, and Executing of Justice, and for the Safety, Peace, Defence and Preservation of the said Province and Counties, and the People under your Government and Direction, as fully and amply, to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes, as we ourselves might or could do, by Virtue of the said Letters Patent and Deeds, or any otherwise howsoever, were we personally present; you following and observing such Orders, Instructions and Directions, as you now have, or hereafter, from Time to Time, shall receive, from us or our Heirs: *To Have, Hold, Execute, Exercise and Enjoy*, the said Office or Post of Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties, with all and every the said Powers, Jurisdictions and Authorities herein before granted; and all Titles, Privileges, Pre-eminences, Profits and Advantages, to a Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief, of the said Province and Counties belonging, and therewith usually held and enjoyed, unto you the said ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, for and during the good Pleasure of us, and the Survivor of us, and until further Order. PROVIDED ALWAYS, that nothing herein contained, shall extend, or be construed to extend, to give you any Power or Authority, to do, perform, act, suffer, acquiesce in, or consent or agree unto, any Act, Matter or Thing whatsoever, by Means or Reason whereof, we, or either of us, or the Heirs of us, or of either of us, may be hurt, prejudiced, impeached, or incumbered, in our or their, or either of our or their Royalities, Jurisdictions, Properties, Estate, Right, Title or Interest, of in or to, the said Province or Counties, or any Part of them; nor to set, let, lease out, grant, demise, receive, possess, occupy or dispose of any Manors, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Houses, Gardens, Royalties, Rents, Issues or Profits, arising, belonging or accruing unto us, or either of us, in the Province and Counties aforesaid, or otherwise; nor to intermeddle or concern yourself therewith, or with any Part of the Property thereof, or with any Officer or Officers, appointed for the Management thereof, either, by placing, displacing, interrupting or hindering any of them, in the just Execution of their Offices: But in case your Aid or Assistance shall be wanted by them, and desired for our Service, then, and in such Case, you are hereby required to assist them, by all lawful Ways and Means to the utmost of your Power, any Thing herein before contained to the contrary thereof, in anywise notwithstanding. AND we do hereby strictly command, charge and require all Persons within the said Province and Counties, of what Degree, Quality, State or Condition soever, to yield, give and pay unto you, all Respect, Submission and Obedience, as Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties, so appointed as aforesaid, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril."

'GIVEN *under our Hands and Seals at Arms, the Fourteenth Day of May, in the Twenty-seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord* GEORGE *the Second, by the Grace of God, of* Great-Britain, France *and* Ireland, *King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the Year of our Lord* One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and Four.

[The Great Seal of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, appendant by a Ribbon, annexed.]

THOMAS PENN. L. S.
RICHARD PENN. L. S.

Recorded the 17th Day of *October*, 1754.

I do hereby certify the foregoing to be an Exemplification. or true Copy, of an original Record in the Rolls-Office at Philadelphia.

Entered in Com. Book A. *Vol.* 11. *Page* 175, *&c.*

C. BROCKDEN, M. R. D.

At the COURT *at* Kensington, *the* 21*st Day of* June, 1754.

PRESENT,

The KING'*s most excellent Majesty, in Council.*

'WHEREAS THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, Proprietaries of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*, in *America*, have represented to his Majesty at this Board, that they have nominated *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq; to be Deputy or Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province, and Counties, and therefore prayed his Majesty's Allowance and Approbation of the said *Robert Hunter Morris*, in the accustomed Manner. His Majesty having taken the same into Consideration, is hereby pleased to approve of the said *Robert Hunter Morris*, to be Deputy Governor of *Pennsylvania*, without Limitation of Time; and of the said Three Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, during his Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure only. Provided the said *Robert Hunter Morris* do qualify himself for that Trust, in such Manner as the Law requires; and that good and sufficient Security be given for his observing the Acts of Trade and Navigation, and for his obeying such Instructions relating thereto, as shall be, from Time to Time, sent to him from his Majesty, or any acting under his Royal Authority. And provided also, that the said THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, do make a Declaration in such Manner as hath been formerly made, relating to his Majesty's Right to the said Three Counties. ——And the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations are to take Care that such Security be accordingly given, and to make Report thereof to his Majesty at this Board; and the said Lords Commissioners are likewise at the same Time to lay before his Majesty a Draught of such Instructions as have been usually given by his Majesty to the said Proprietaries on the like Occasions.

W. SHARPE."

Recorded the 17th Day of *October* 1754.

A true Copy, examined per C. BROCKDEN, M. R. D.

At the COURT *at Kensington, the* 21*st Day of June*, 1754.

PRESENT,

The KING's *most excellent Majesty, in Council.*

'HIS Majesty having been pleased to declare his Royal Allowance and Approbation of *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq: to be Deputy Governor of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, without Limitation of Time; and of the Counties of *New-Castle, Kent* and *Sussex*, on *Delaware* River, in *America*, during his Royal Will and Pleasure, according to the Nonination of THOMAS and RICHARD PENN, Esquires, Proprietaries of the said Province, and Counties; he this Day took the Oaths before his Majesty in Council, appointed to be taken, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy; and also the Oath required to be taken by the Governors of his Majesty's Plantations, for putting in Execution the Acts of Trade and Navigation.

W. SHARPE."

Recorded the 17th Day of *October*, 1754.

I do hereby certify the above-written to be an Exemplification, or true Copy, of an original Record in the Rolls Office at Philadelphia, *in Com. Book* A. *Vol.* 11 *Page* 177.

C. BROCKDEN, M. R. D.

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Question, *Whether the Speaker of this House has a Right to give his Vote in the Case of* Spencer Trotter? And, after a considerable Debate, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, William Callender, Mahlon Kirkbride, George Ashbridge, James Wright, David M'Connaughy, Joseph Armstrong, Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Address in Answer to the Governor's Speech, and report it to the House To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to prepare a Draught of an Address in Answer to the Governor's Speech, reported the same to the House, where it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Resolved, N. C. D. That *Five Hundred Pounds* be at this Time paid, out of the Provincial Treasury, to the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq; Lieutenant Governor of this Province.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Address to the Governor being transcribed, it was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

To the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq;
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, &c.

The ADDRESS of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province, in Answer to the Governor's Speech of the 15th Instant.

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE, the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in General Assembly met, beg Leave to congratulate the Governor on his Accession to this Government, and his fate Arrival in *Pennsylvania.*

It is very agreeable to us to find that the Choice of him was from an Opinion our honourable Proprietaries entertained, that he would, to the utmost of his Power, promote the general Happiness of this Province; in which the Governor is pleased to assure us, it shall be his earnest Endeavour not to disappoint them; and that he will, on all Occasions, be studious to protect the People committed to his Charge in the Enjoyment of all their Civil and Religious Liberties. And we do, with the same Sincerity, promise to contribute every Thing in our Power to support him in the Exertion of all the just Rights of Government conducive to these good Ends.

The Encroachments of the *French* on his Majesty's Territories, and their hostile Proceedings in this Time of Peace, are truly alarming; and as they have been long since known in *Great Britain*, we were in Hopes, on the Governor's Arrival, to have received Instructions from the Crown, how to conduct ourselves on this important Occasion; but as we have not had any such laid before us, the Royal Order sent to the several Colonies by the Earl of *Holdernesse*, in his Letter of the Twenty-eight of *August*, 1753. appears to be the only Rule by which we can now act with Safety: And as we find our late Assembly did what was most consistent with the Trust reposed in them to comply therewith, the Governor may likewise depend upon our doing whatever can be reasonably expected from us for the Good of this Province, or the general Interest of the *British* Colonies on the Continent, whenever our Assistance can be applied to any valuable Purpose. But at present, as we know not where to direct our Aid, and as this has not been the usual Time of doing Business, occasioned by the Governor's being obliged to give his Attendance elsewhere, we are inclined, if he has no Objection, or any Thing farther to lay before us, to make a short Adjournment; and if, during our Recess, any Matters of Importance should come to his Knowledge, we shall chearfully attend the Governor's Call of our House, and contribute our Assistance for the Public Good."

And the said Address being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, with the Order of this House for *Five Hundred Pounds.*

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Address of the House, and the Order for *Five Hundred Pounds*, reported, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he thanked the House for the Order; and would take their Address into Consideration, and return an Answer to the House, forth with, if he found it required One.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined *Conrad Weiser's* Account of Disbursements for the Maintenance and Support of the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, and find, that, out of the *Three Hundred Pounds* put into his Hands for the Purposes aforesaid, there is a Balance of *Six Pounds Twelve Shillings* and *Two-pence*, due from him to the Province.

The House taking the Governor's verbal Message of the Sixteenth Instant, with the several Letters from *Conrad Weiser* and *George Croghan*, relating to *Indian* Affairs, into Consideration;

Resolved, That, until the next Sitting of Assembly, this House will, out of the Provincial Treasury, allow such reasonable Charges as necessarily arise upon making a suitable Provision towards the Maintenance of those *Indians*, in our Alliance, as have taken Refuge within this Government.

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

The Question, *Whether the Speaker of this House has a Right to give his Vote in the Case of* Spencer Trotter? was again debated; and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported on an Account of *Conrad Weiser's* amounting to *Nineteen Pounds Four Shillings*, for the Maintenance of some *Indians* who came down to his House in *July* last, that they were of Opinion the said Account ought to be allowed.

The Committee of Accounts also reported on *Anthony Benezet's* Account of Disbursements for the Relief and Maintenance of such *French* Deserters as have for some Time past arrived in this City, that they were of Opinion the said Account was just; by which it appears, that there is a Balance of *Three Pounds Sixteen Shillings* and *Eleven-pence Halfpenny* remaining in the said *Benezet's* Hands, due to the Province, out of the Money formerly paid him for the Purposes aforesaid.

The House agreed to the two above Reports of the Committee of Accounts.

Resolved, That the further Sum of *Twenty Pounds* be paid out of the Provincial Treasury into the Hands of *Anthony Benezet*, to be by him laid out for the Relief and Maintenance of such *French* Deserters as are now in this City, or may hereafter arrive, in such Manner as he shall judge most suitable.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Second Day of *December* next.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I VERY heartily thank you for your kind Address. As I have nothing further to lay before you, I shall not object to your Proposal of making a short Adjournment.

Philadelphia,
October 19, 1754. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Ordered, That *Hugh Evans* and *Joseph Fox* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House is inclined to adjourn to the Decond Day of *December* next, if he hath no Objection thereto.

The Committee of Accounts reported on an Account of *Conrad Weiser's*, amounting to *Fifty-four Pounds*, for his and Son's Services, in attending the Commissioners to the *Carlisle* and *Albany* Treaties, and for sending two Expresses to the Governor, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed; ———— to which Report the House assented.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer for Payment of the same, together with the Sum of *Nineteen Pounds Four Shillings*, allowed the said *Weiser* for the Maintenance of some *Indians* who came down to his House in *July* last.

The Petition from *Lewis Evans* was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, it was

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifty Pounds* be paid out of the Provincial Treasury to the said *Evans*, towards the better enabling him to compleat and publish the Map mentioned in his said Petition.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they delivered the same, accordingly to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had no Objection to the proposed Time of Adjournment; but, if Occasion required, he should call the House together sooner.

Ordered, That the Question concerning the Speaker's Rights to a Vote in the Case of *Spencer Trotter*, be referred to the Consideration of this House at their next Sitting.

Then the House adjourned to the Second Day of *December* next.

THE House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met according to their Adjournment, and desire to know if he hath any Thing to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should be at the Council Chamber about Eleven o'Clock this Morning, and would then send a Message to require the Attendance of the House.

The House being informed, that *Edward Warner*, chosen one of the Representatives of the County of *Philadelphia*, is deceased;

Ordered, That an Order issued, under the Hand of the Speaker, to the Secretary of the Province, requiring him to issue a Writ to the Sheriff of *Philadelphia*, for electing a new Member to serve in Assembly for the said County the present Year.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

'The Governor requires the Attendance of the House immediately in the Council Chamber."

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, who was pleased to make a Speech to this House, a Copy of which he had delivered to the Speaker, and informed him, that the Papers therein, referred to, should be laid before the House by the Secretary; and that whatever other Matters he might have to lay before the House, during this Sitting, he would communicate by Message.

The Governor's Speech was read, and it follows in these Words, *viz.*

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

'AS you are now met for the Dispatch of Business, I think it my Duty to remind you of what I said at the Opening of the last Sitting, and to lay before you a Letter I have since received from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, signifying to me, "his Majesty's express Commands, that I should not only act virgorously in Defence of the Government under my Care, but that I should likewise be aiding and assisting his Majesty's other Colonies, to repel any hostile Attempts made against them."

At the Time of writing that Letter, on the Fifth of *July* last, his Majesty, and his Ministers, were only informed, that the *French* had drove some of the *Virginia* Troops from a Place on *Ohio*, at the Mouth of *Mohongialo*, and were erecting a Fort there; and you will observe, they think those Advantages, gained by the *French*, might have been in a great Measure, if not totally, prevented, if every one of his Majesty's Governments had exerted themselves according to the Directions in the Earl of *Holderness's* Letter of the Twenty-eighth of *August*."

You are sensible, that many Things have happened since the Retreat from the Forks of *Mohongialo*, that have put our Affairs upon the Frontiers in a very bad Situation, much worse than his Majesty and his Ministers have any Knowledge of, or than they can possible imagine; as they are well informed of the flourishing State of these Colonies, of the Numbers of Men they are capable of raising, and had great Reason to expect, that in a Matter, in which the Interest and Safety of the Colonies were so nearly concerned, they would have exerted themselves with uncommon Vigour.

From the Letters and Intelligence I have ordered to be laid before you, it will appear that the *French* have now, at their Fort at *Mohongialo*, above a Thousand regular Troops, besides *Indians;* that they are well supplied with Provisions, and that they have lately received an additional Number of Cannon; that their Upper Forts are also well garrisoned and provided, and that they are making a Settlement of Three Hundred Families in the Country of the *Twightwees*, at the South-west End of the Lake *Erie*.

From those Papers you will likewise be informed of the Use they have made of their last Year's Success among the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, having prevailed with many of them to remove to *Canada*, who will either be neuter in the present Dispute, or take up Arms against us, while such few of the *Indians*, as still retain their Attachment to the *English*, dare not be active for us, till they see a Force in the Field superior to that of the *French;* and if that be not soon, they will certainly give up our Cause, and embrace the tempting Offers made them by the *French*.

Gentlemen, It is now several Years since the *French* undertook this Expedition, and we have long had full Intelligence of their Designs, and of the Steps they have taken to carry them into Execution; their Progress indeed has been very surprizing, owing chiefly to the Inactivity of the *English* Colonies, who, I am sorry to say, have looked with too much Indifference upon an Affair that must end in their Ruin, if not timely prevented.

When you have maturely considered the Conduct of the *French*, upon the present Occasion, and observed the Steadiness with which they have pursued a well-laid Plan, you cannot doubt but very considerable Men have been concerned in the Formation of this Scheme, and that proper Persons are employed in the Execution of it; and as the Circumstances of these Colonies are by no Means unknown to the *French*, they are doubtless prepared to make a vigorous Defence, and will not easily give up what they have taken so much Pains, and been at such Expence to gain; but rather will be induced to attack us, knowing our weak and defenceless State, and that we are, as it were, an open Door for the Conquest of the rest of the Provinces. We must therefore resolve to act with Vigor, or not at all; for, in my Opinion, we had better not attempt than be defeated.

These Encroachments of the *French* upon the Territories of the Crown of *Britain* in *America* have turned the Eyes of *Europe* to this Quarter of the World, as it is uncertain what Effects they may produce; the Conduct therefore of these Colonies will be more than ever the Object of their Attention, and ours in particular, who are most immediately concerned;

for whether the *French* Forts are within the particular Limits of this Province or not, I look upon to be very immaterial in the present Case, though in my Opinion they are clearly so; but be that as it may, our Situation at present is certainly very alarming. ———The *French* on our Borders are numerous, strongly fortified, well provided, and daily encreasing———The small Body of *English* Troops on the Frontiers, weakened by the Desertion from the Independent Companies, and the Want of Discipline in the *New Levies*. ———The *Six Nations* of *Indians*, formerly our firm Friends, divided among themselves, many of them gone over to the *French*, and others wavering, and in Doubt whether to follow their Brethren, or continue with us. The neighbouring Provinces (except *Virginia*) though nearly interested in the Issue of the present Affair, contributing nothing towards the Common Cause, or sparingly; and though *Virginia* has indeed given *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, yet it will avail but little, unless a considerable Body of Troops be sent from this Province, and kept up till the Work is done.

Permit me, therefore, *Gentlemen*, to press this Matter upon you; exert yourselves upon the present Occasion; dissipate the Cloud that hangs over your Country, and save her from the threatened Destruction. His Majesty, ever anxious for the Welfare of all his Subjects, excites and commands us ——— The Eyes of a *British* Parliament, of the People of our Mother Country, of the other *American* Colonies, and even of all *Europe*, are upon us——And the Fate of this Country, the Happiness or Misery of your Posterity, very much depend on your Resolutions.

I cannot therefore admit myself to doubt but you will enter seriously upon the Consideration of this important Affair, and, by enabling me to carry the King's Commands into full Execution, convince his Majesty of your Readiness to pay Obedience to his Royal Orders, set a seasonable and noble Example to the other Colonies, and shew your Constituents, that you have nothing more at Heart than to secure to them and their Posterity the Continuance of the many invaluable Blessings they enjoy.

December 3, 1754."

Ordered, That *George Ashbridge* have Leave to be absent till next Week on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Secretary laid before the House the several Papers referred to in the Governor's Speech, and others, entituled, as follows, *viz.*

1. *A Letter from Sir* Thomas Robinson, *one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, to the Governor, dated* July 5, 1754.

2. *A Letter from Governor* Dinwiddie *to Governor* Morris; *dated* Williamsburg, November 8, 1754.

3. *A Letter from Governor* Sharpe *to Governor* Morris; *dated* Annapolis, November 8, 1754.

4. A *Letter to the Governor from* George Croghan; *dated* November 23, 1754.

5. *Extract of a Letter to the late Governor from* Daniel Claus; *dated* October, 1754.

6. *A Letter to the Secretary from* Daniel Claus; *dated* Conajoharée Castle, October 29, 1754.

7. *A Letter to the Secretary* from John Harris; *dated* October 29, 1754.

8. *A Letter to the Secretary from* George Croghan, *with an Account of sundry Disbursements by him, for the Maintenance of the* Indians *at* Aughwick; *dated* October 16, 1754.

And the foregoing Papers being severally read, the Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson* was ordered to be printed with the Minutes, and the others to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

And the said Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson* follows in these Words, *viz.*

SIR, *Whitehall, July* 5, 1754.

"YOUR Letter of the Twenty-fifth of *November* last, in Answer to the Earl of *Holderness's* of the Twenty-eighth of *August*, having been received and laid before the King, I am to acquaint you, that it is his Majesty's express Command, that you should, in Obedience thereto, not only act vigorously in the Defence of the Government under your Care, but that you should likewise be aiding and assisting his Majesty's other *American* Colonies, to repel any hostile Attempts made against them, and it was with great Surprize that the King observed your total Silence upon that Part of his Majesty's Orders, which relate to a Concert with the other Colonies, which you must be sensible is now become more essentially necessary for their common Defence, since the Account received by you from Major *Washington*, with regard to the Hostilities committed by the *French* upon the River *Ohio*, which verify, in Fact, what was apprehended when the Earl of *Holdernesse* wrote so fully to you in *August* last, and which might have been, in great Measure, if not totally, prevented, had every one of his Majesty's Governments exerted themselves according to those Directions, the Observance thereof, I am now, by the King's Command, to enforce to you in the strongest Manner. I am

SIR,

Your most obedient humbly Servant,
THOMAS ROBINSON."

The Speaker laid before the House a Letter from the Agent, dated *August* 30, 1754, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Samuel Preston Moore*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Practitioner in Physic, praying to be appointed Treasurer of this Province, in the Room of *Michael Lightfoot*, Esq; deceased, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor, by the Secretary, send down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE ordered two Letters, which I received by Express from Mr. *George Croghan*, the Person entrusted with the Care of the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, to be laid before you, by which you will be informed of the Proposals made by the *French* to the *Indians* that removed from the *Ohio*, and of their Answer.

These People have been hitherto maintained by this Province, and I believe you will be of Opion, that it is necessary to continue this Support at least till the next Spring; and as some of the Chiefs are to set out for the great Council at *Onondago* upon the Return of this Express, it may determine the Resolutions of that Council in Favour of the *English*, if I am enabled to assure those Chiefs, before their Departure, that this Government will continue to maintain such of their People as they leave behind them, and will take Measures to secure them against any sudden Attack. As these People have always been very firmly attacked to the *English* Interest, and, by their Answer to the *French Message*, seem to give up all Thoughts of returning to *Ohio*, while it remains in their Hands, I must recommend it to you to make Provision for their Maintenance, and for setting up some Stocadoes round the Place they fix upon for their Winter Residence.

I have detained the Express till I could know your Resolutions, and therefore hope you will give this Affair the necessary Dispatch.

That Part of Mr. *Croghan's* Letters relating to himself, will, I make no Doubt, be duly considered, and his Services rewarded in such Manner as to give him perfect Satisfaction.

December 4, 1754. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Ordered, That *George Croghan's* Accounts be referred to the Committee of Accounts, who are to report thereon to the House.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts reported on *George Croghan's* Accounts, for Disbursements among the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, that they found a Balance of *Sixty-nine Pounds Nineteen Shillings*, due from the Province to the said *Croghen*, which they were of Opinion ought to be allowed by the House.——— To which Report the House agreed.

A Petition from *Jonathan Mifflin*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, praying to be appointed Treasurer of this Province; and promising to apply the whole Profits, arising to him from the said Office, to the Use of the Province Hospital; was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Speaker informed the House, "That, since the last Sitting, he had fully considered the Question concerning the Speaker of this House having a Right to give his Vote as circumstanced in the Case of *Spencer Trotter;* and although by depriving himself of his Vote in this Case, he gave up more than a Speaker of the House of Commons, in Proportion to the Number which compose that august Body, and the Assemblies of this Province. Nevertheless, considering the Case in *Townshend's* Collections, Page 321, *& seq.* so exactly agreeing with the Call of the House for the Speaker's Vote in the Case of *Spencer Trotter*, he could not think it either safe or honourable to act in Opposition to it, and therefore was clearly of Opinion, *that he was foreclosed of his Voice by taking of that Place which it had pleased them to impose upon him, and that he was to be indifferent for both Parties.*"

The Petitions from *Samuel Preston Moore* and *Jonathan Mifflin* were again read, and considered; and, after some Debate thereon, it was

Resolved, That *Samuel Preston Moore* be the Treasurer of this Province for the current Year.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered, and the further Consideration thereof was referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from *John Jones*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed, that the Time limited by Act of Assembly, for the present Officer for viewing and branding Flour to continue in his said Office, expired in *August* last; that the Petitioner having had some Experience in the Quality of Flour, humbly conceives himself a proper Judge thereof; therefore prays that this House would appoint him to execute the aforesaid Office; or, if this House should think it more expedient for two Persons to perform the same, that *Daniel Morris* may be nominated with the Petitioner.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *Daniel Morris*, of the County of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Time limited for the present Officer for viewing and branding of Flour to continue in his said Office expired in *August* last; that the Petitioner has had many Years Experience in the Quality of Flour, and conceives himself a competent Judge thereof; therefore humbly prays that this House would nominate him to the beforementioned Office; or, if this House should think it more expedient to have two Persons to execute the same, that *John Jones* may be appointed with the Petitioner.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *Stephen Shewell*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Biscuit-Baker, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed, that a new Officer is now about to be nominated for examining and branding of Flour; the Petitioner therefor prays that this House would be pleased to appoint him to the said Office.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Governor's Speech; and after some Debate, it was

Resolved, That the Sum of *Twenty Thousand Pounds* be at this Time given to the King's Use; and that the same be struck in Paper Bills of Credit, and sunk by an Extension of the Excise Act for the further Term of Ten Years.

Resolved, That *Twenty Thousand Pounds* be now also struck for the Exchange of such Bills of Credit now current by Law within this Province as are torn and ragged.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Wright*, *John Wright*, *John Smith*, *Moses Starr*, and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in the foregoing Resolves.

Resolved, That, till the next Sitting of Assembly, this House will, out of the Provincial Treasury, allow such reasonable Charges as necessarily arise upon making a suitable Provision towards the Maintenance of those *Indians* in our Alliance, who have taken Refuge within this Government.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Samuel Preston Moore, chosen Provincial Treasurer on the Fourth Instant, attending, was called in, and acquainted therewith by the Speaker; and, after being referred to the Laws of this Province for Information in the Duty of his Office, he withdrew.

The House taking into Consideration the Governor's Message of the Fourth Instant, relating to the *Indians* now at *Aughwick;*

Ordered, That a Draught of an Answer to the said Message be forthwith prepared at the Table; which being accordingly done, was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the same being transcribed, was again read; and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have considered the Letters and Accounts Laid before us by the Governor, relating to the *Indians* now at *Aughwick*, and are well satisfied with their Steadiness in our Interest, and the Answer they have given to the Proposals of the *French* to induce them to return to the *Ohio*.

We are confident the Treatment our *Indian* Allies have always received from this Province has great weight with them, and that we have a large Share in their Affections, which we are willing to preserve, by continuing to treat them with Justice, Humanity and Tenderness; we therefore, notwithstanding the heavy Charge the Province has been at, and is like to be continued upon us, have unanimously resolved to defray such reasonable Charges as may accrue on the Support of those *Indians* till our next Meeting. As we apprehend the Governor will agree with us in the Necessity of regulating that Expence with all possible Oeconomy; and as *George Croghan* (whose

Accounts we have allowed) seems resolved to remove from *Aughwick*, and the *Indians*, by that Means, will be left without any proper Person to take the necessary Care of providing for their Subsistance, we recommended it to the Governor's Consideration, whether it might not be more convenient for the *Indians* themselves, and less Expence, to the Province, if they were invited to come nearer our Back Inhabitants, till, by Hunting, or otherwise, they may be able to subsist themselves with Safety."

December 6, 1754.

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Joseph Fox* do wait upon the Governor and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into Consideration, and return an Answer to the House, it he found it required one.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Stretch*, *Joseph Fox*, *Joshua Morris*, *Joseph Trotter*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Hamton*, *Thomas Cummings*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Wright*, *Peter Worral*, *John Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to inspect the Laws of this Province, and report which of them are expired, or near expiring, and ought to be re-enacted, with their Opinion what Amendments to them or others may be necessary; and likewise, that they examine the Votes of last Year, and bring forward such of the Bills then prepared, or ordered to be prepared, as they shall think necessary for the House to proceed upon at this Sitting.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow morning.

An Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the Balance of *George Croghan's* Account, for Disbursements among the *Indians*, amounting to *Sixty-nine Pounds Nineteen Shillings*.

The House taking into Consideration the Governor's Message, concerning the Maintenance of the *Indians* now at *Aughwick;*

Resolved, That the Sum of *One Hundred* and *Fifty Pounds* be now paid, out of the Provincial Treasury, into the Hands of the Honourable *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of this Province, to be by him laid out towards defraying such reasonable Charges, as necessarily arise from making a suitable Provision towards the Maintenance of those *Indians* in our Alliance, who have taken Refuge within this Government.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Sheriff of the County of *Philadelphia* attending, was called in, and made a Return to the House, by which it appeared, that *James Pemberton* was chosen on the Seventh Instant a Representative to serve in Assembly for the said County, in the Room of *Edward Warner*, deceased.

Two Letters to the Governor from *George Croghan*, and a Copy of a Speech made by the *Indians* of the *Six Nations* residing at *Aughwick*, in Answer to a Message sent them from the Governor, were laid before the House by the Speaker; who informed the House, that they were just received by Express, and put into his Hands by the Secretary.

And the said Letters and Speech were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds in* Bills of Credit, and for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

A Copy of a Message from the Governor to the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, notifying his Appointment to the Government of this Province, was laid before the House, by the Secretary, and read.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from *William Clark*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Cooper, praying to be appointed the principal Culler of Staves, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufactures made thereof; and

A Bill, entituled, *An Act concerning Apprentices and Servants*, &c. Also

A Bill, entituled, *An Act that all written Instruments shall be in the* English *language;* were brought into the House by the Committee of Laws, and severally read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

James Pemberton, returned a Representative for the City of *Philadelphia*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualifications by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

The Bill for Striking the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province, was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Bill, entituled, *An Act to punish the Counterfeiters of Foreign Coins, or the Bills of Credit of the neighbouring Colonies, current within this Province*, was brought into the House by the Committee of Laws, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Bill concerning Apprentices and Servants was read the second time, by Paragraphs, and debated; and, after some Time spent therein, was recommitteed to the Committee of Laws, for Amendment.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Speech being again read, and considered;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright*, *John Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"A CONTAGIOUS Distemper was, this Summer, introduced into this City by the coming up of sickly Vessels, and landing distempered Persons, and their infected Goods; and though every Thing the Government could legally do, was done, to prevent its Introduction or Spreading, yet the Measures taken did not prove effectual. The Disorder, I am informed, was chiefly confined to the *Germans*, and those who were obliged to be much with them, and is now abated.

But Distempers of that Kind may hereafter be more universal, and more fatal, I therefore think this Matter worthy your Consideration, and recommend it to you to revise the Laws now in being relating to sickly Vessels and Passengers, and to make Provision for preventing the ill Effects that may arise from such for the future, and also more effectually to prevent the Spreading of any infectious Disorder that may be introduced into this City and Province.

December 12, 1754. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Secretary informed the House, that if they required to see the Doctors Reports, or any other Papers relating to the Matters recommended in the foregoing Message, they should be delivered to them.

The House took the Governor's last Message into Consideration; and, after some Time spent therein, requested the Speaker to procure such of the Papers, mentioned by the Secretary, as he shall think proper for the Consideration of the House.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Speech, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, with some Amendments, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have deliberately considered the Governor's Speech of the Third Instant, with the Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and the other Letters and Papers he has been pleased to lay before us. And as we account it our indispensable Duty to do every Thing in our Power to comply with his Majesty's Royal Orders, or that may contribute to the Welfare of the People we represent, we have chearfully, and almost unanimosly, resolved to grant *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's use; for the Raising and Sinking of which Sum, we have prepared a Bill, which will be laid before the Governor, for his Concurrence, with all possible Dispatch.

Though we hope the Numbers of the *French* and their *Indian* Allies, mentioned in *George Croghan's* Letters, are full large, yet the uncommon Efforts they have made towards obtaining a Possession on that Part of his Majesty's Dominions, are truly alarming, and dangerous to the *British* Interest in *North-America*: And we have good Reason to believe, the Sums granted the King by our late Assembly, had the then Governor been pleased to pass the Bills offered to him for that Purpose. "might, in a great Measure, if not totally, have prevented the bad Situation of our Affairs at present," and have placed our Duty to the best of Kings, as we desire it always should appear, among his most loving and loyal Subjects; and, for this Reason, it is with Concern we find, by the above-mentioned Letter from the Secretary of State, "That it was with great Surprize the King had observed, in our late Governor's Answer to the Earl of *Holderness*, he had been totally silent on that Part of his Majesty's Orders, which relate to a Concert with the Colonies." But as we have great Confidence in our Governor, that he will at all Times afford us all good Offices and Protection, and will be pleased to represent us, and our Affairs, in a favourable Light, as we hope he may do with great Justice; So, on our Part, we shall not fail to contribute every Thing in our Power to answer all reasonable Expectations from so young a Colony, so far as is consistent with our Civil and Religious Liberties; beyond which, under so good a King, we are well assured nothing further will be asked or expected from us. And in Lieu of the Governor's Justice and Protection, it will give us particular Pleasure to make his Administration in this Province easy to himself, and honourable to all."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Joseph Armstrong* and *James Burnside* wait upon the Governor with the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they delivered the same, according to Order.

A Letter to the Speaker from *Conrad Weiser*, containing an Account of his Disbursements for some *Indians*, who came down to his House in *October* last, amounting to *Six Pounds Nineteen Shillings* and *Six-pence*, also desiring some Allowance might be made him for his Trouble in his late Journey to *Aughwick*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Forty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and for granting* Twenty Thousand Pounds *thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Peter Worral* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and desire his Concurrence thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of ragged and torn Bills now current in this Province, report, that they delivered the same, according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into Consideration, and give it all the Dispatch the Nature of the Case required.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County of *Northampton* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Stealing of Horses is become very frequent in said County, owing, as the Petitioners conceive, to the Smallness of the Punishment inflicted by Law for that Crime; the Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would take the Premises into Consideration, and pass an Act to punish Horse-stealers with Death.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Bill to prevent the Exportation of bad or unmerchantable Staves, Heading, Shingles, Boards and Timber, was brought into the House by the Committee of Laws, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Bill concerning Apprentices and Servants was brought in by the Committee to whom it was recommitted for Amendment, without any Alteration, the Committee desiring first to have the Opinion of the House on sundry Parts thereof;

and the said Bill being read and considered, was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Jacob Lewis*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Carpenter, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed, that there is a Bill now before the House, in which it is proposed to appoint an Officer for the Inspecting and Measuring all the Timber shipped from this City; that the Petitioner is skilled in Timber, and in Mensuration; therefore prays to be appointed the Officer aforesaid.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *Robert Callender* and *Michael Teaff* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners in *August* last laid before the Assembly an Account of sundry Goods by them delivered to the *Half-King* and other *Indians*, as is particularly set forth in a Petition annexed to the said Account; the Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would be pleased to take the said Petition and Account into Consideration, and do therein what they in their Wisdom shall think fitting.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Speaker laid before the House the Reports of the Doctors, and sundry other Papers, relaing to the *Palatines* lately imported into this City; also an Extract of a Letter from Governor *Shirley* to Governor *Morris;* which Papers, the Speaker informed the House, were put into his Hands by the Secretary, for the Consideration of the House.

And the said Papers being read, were ordered to lie on the Table, for the Perusal of the Members.

An Account from *William Anderson*, for sundry Things furnished the *Indians* at the Treaty held at *Carlisle*, amounting to *Seven Pounds*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Account from *John Harris*, of *Paxton*, for the Burial of the *Half-King*, and other Expences paid by him for the Maintenance of the said *Half-King's* Family, amounting to *Ten Pounds Fifteen Shillings* and *Four-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Ordered, That the Committee of Accounts do settle with the Executors of the late Treasurer, and report What Balance they find due from his Estate to the Province.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment, and adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill for preventing the Importation of *Germans* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers, in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province, was brought into the House by the Committee of Laws, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Joseph Trotter, one of the Members of this House, represented to the House, that he having acted as a Trustee of the *Province Island* upwards of Twelve Years past, and being now, by Reason of his Age, become unable to execute the said Trust, he therefore moved to be discharged therefrom, and that another be appointed in his Place.

Which Motion was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts reported on the two Accounts of *John Harris*, that they find a Balance of *Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings* and *Five-pence*, due to the said *Harris* for Cash paid by him to *William Gray*, *James Mitcheltree* and *James Andrews*, for their Expences in bringing an *Indian* Prisoner, in the Year 1751, down to *Lancaster;* also a Balance of *Ten Pounds Fifteen Shillings* and *Four-pence*, due to the said *Harris* for his Expences, and *Five Pounds* for his Trouble, *&c.* in burying the *Half-King*, and maintaining sundry *Indians* that were with him.

The Committee of Accounts also reported that they were of Opinion, *William Anderson's* Account, for sundry Things furnished the *Indians* at *Carlisle*, ought to be allowed by this House.

The Committee of Accounts likewise reported, that they had examined *Conrad Weiser's* Accounts, and were of Opinion, that the Sum of *Ten Pounds Seven Shillings* and *Four-pence* was due to him, in full of all Demands from this Province.

The House agreed to the three above Reports of the Committee of Accounts.

The Speaker having represented, and shewn to the House, that he had, since the last Sitting of Assembly, as the Treasurer was out of Cash, advanced the Sum of *Eighty Pounds* to *George Croghan*, towards the Maintenance of the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, which he had not as yet been repaid;

Ordered, That the Executors of the late Treasurer do pay the said Sum of *Eighty Pounds* to the Speaker, or his Order, out of the Money in their Hands due to the Province.

The Speaker laid before the House an Account of sundry Expences paid by him for the Service of the House, amounting to *Twelve Pounds* and *Six-pence*, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, &c., with a written Message, together with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read; and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"I HAVE taken your Bill into Consideration, which, among other Things, proposes the Emitting of *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, in Paper Bills, to be current for Twelve Years; to which I cannot by any Means agree, as I am forbid, by a Royal Instruction, to pass any Law for creating Money in Paper Bills, without a suspending Clause, that it shall not take Effect till his Majesty's Pleasure be known: And to shew you, Gentlemen, that I do not entirely rely upon my own Judgment as to the Validity of that Instruction, I herewith send you the Opinion of Sir *Dudley Ryder*, the late Attorney-General, and present Chief Justice of *England*; by which you may see, that upon as favourable a State of the Case as could have been drawn up by your own House he is clearly of Opinion, that the Instruction is most certainly in Force, and binding upon me; however, as the Act of Parliament restraining the Four Eastern Governments from emitting Paper Currency, gives them a Power to strike Bills of Credit, in case of Emergency, I hope I shall be justified in thinking the Reason holds good as to us, who are in the greatest Danger, being already invaded by the *French*, and in immediate Expectation of Outrage from the *Indians* in their Alliance; I will therefore join with you in any Bill for striking what Sum you shall think our pressing Occasions demand, provided a Fund be established for sinking the same in five Years.

'I am exceedingly obliged to the House for their kind Sentiments with regard to me, and shall make it my peculiar Care so to act as to merit the Continuance of their good Opinion; and can truly say, it is no small Mortification to me to be obliged to differ in Opinion from the Representatives of the Province, who, I am convinced, act from upright Motives, and what they esteem to be its true Interest; but would willingly hope, when they come to reflect on the Obligations I am under to pay Obedience to his Majesty's Instructions, that they will not press me to disobey them; especially when they consider, that should I disregard my own Honour and Safety in passing a Bill circumstanced as this is, there is great Danger of its being disapproved by his Majesty, and what Loss and Confusion such an Event would cause in the Province, by the Paper Bills becoming of no Value, I need not particularly mention.

'You will observe, from Governor *Sharpe's* Letter, which I Yesterday received, and now lay before you, that the *French* and *Indians* upon the *Ohio* are much more numerous than we apprehended, making in the whole Two Thousand Men, besides what they have already on the Lake *Erie*; and as they have got together such a considerable Force at this inhospitable Season, we cannot make a Doubt but they will be much stronger in the Spring.

'On the Information mentioned in that Letter, we may likewise expect an Attack upon our Back Settlements, the *French* having sent a Detachment of the *Arundack Indians* upon that Service, and as we have no Force to resist them, they will be at Liberty to commit what Cruelties they please upon the Defenceless People that inhabit the remote Parts of this Province.

'Be pleased therefore, Gentlemen, when you frame another Bill, to consider whether it would not be better, on all Accounts, to augment the Sum proposed to be given, since this will go but a very little Way towards expelling the *French* from our Borders and defending our Frontiers from the Incursions of their *Indians*.

December 18, 1754. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the State of the Case, and Sir *Dudley Ryder's* Opinion, referred to in the foregoing Message, are as follow, *viz.*

CASE.

'KING CHARLES II, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of *England*, granted a Tract of Land in *America*, unto WILLIAM PENN, Esq; his Heirs, and Assigns, and made him and them the true and absolute Proprietaries thereof, saving always to the Crown, the Faith and Allegiance of the said WILLIAM PENN, his Heirs and Assigns, and of the

Tenants and Inhabitants of the Premises, and saving also unto the Crown, *the Sovereignty* of the said Country.

'To hold to, and to the use of, the said WILLIAM PENN, his Heirs and Assigns, for ever.

'To be held of his said Majesty, his Heirs and Successors. Kings of *England*, as of the Castle of *Windsor*, in free and common Soccage, by Fealty only, for all Services, and not *in Capite*, or by Knights Service.

'Rendering two Beaver Skins yearly, and the fifth Part of all Gold and Silver Ore.

'And his Majesty thereby erected the said Country into a Province, and Seigniorty, and called it *Pennsylvania*.

'And thereby granted free, and full and absolute Power unto the said WILLIAM PENN and his Heirs, "and to his and their Deputies and Lieutenants, for the good and happy Government of the said Country, to ordain, make, enact, and under his and their Seals to publish, any Laws *whatsoever*, for the Raising of Money for the public Use of the said Province, and for any other End, appeartaining either to the public State, Peace or Safety of the said Country, or unto the private Utility of particular Persons, according to their best Discretions, by and with the Advice, Assent and Approbation of the Freemen of the said Country, or the greater Part of them, or of their Delegates or Deputies, whom, for the Enacting of the said Laws, when and as often as Need shall require, We will, that the said WILLIAM PENN, and his Heirs, shall assemble, in such Sort and Form as to him and then shall seem best; and the said Laws duly to execute unto and upon all People within the said Country, and Limits thereof."

'Then, there follow other Powers, to appoint Judges, Magistrates, *&c.* And afterwards, the Charter contains, in sundry different Parts, the other Clauses, here following, *viz.*

"Which Laws, so as aforesaid to be published, Our Will and Pleasure is, and so We injoin, require and command, shall be most absolute and available in Law, and that all the Liege People and Subjects of Us, Our Heirs and Successors, do observe and keep the same inviolably in those Parts, so far as they concern them, under the Pain therein expressed, or to be expressed: Provided, nevertheless, that the said Laws be consonant to Reason, and be not repugnant or contrary, but, as near as conveniently may be, agreeable to the Laws, Statutes and *Rights* of this our Kingdom of *England*.

"And Our further Will and Pleasure is, that the Laws for regulating and governing of Property, within the said Province, as well for the Descent and Enjoyment of Lands, as likewise for the Enjoyment and Succession of Goods and Chattels; and likewise as to Felonies, shall be and continue the same, as they shall be, for the Time being, by the general Course of the Law, in Our Kingdom of *England*, *until* the said Laws shall be altered by the said *WILLIAM PENN*, his Heirs or Assigns, and by the Freemen of the said Province, their Delegates or Deputies, or the greater Part of them.

"And, to the End the said WILLIAM PENN, or his Heirs, or other the Planters, Owners or Inhabitants of the said Province, may not, at any Time hereafter, by Misconstruction of the Powers aforesaid, through Inadvertency, or Design, depart from the Faith and due Allegiance which, by the Laws of this our Kingdom of *England*, they, and all Our Subjects, in Our Dominions and Territories, always owe unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, by Colour of any Extend, or Largeness of Powers, hereby given, or pretended to be given, or by Force or Colour of any Laws, hereafter to be made, in the said Province, by Virtue of any such Powers, Our futher Will and Pleasure is, that a Transcript, or Duplicate, of all Laws, which shall be so as aforesaid made and published within the said Province, shall, within Five Years after the Making thereof, be transmitted and delivered to the Privy Council, for the time being of Us, Our Heirs and Successors; and if any of the said Laws, within six Months, after that they shall be so transmitted and delivered, be declared by Us, Our Heirs or Successors, in Our or their Privy Council, *inconsistent with the Sovereignty*, or lawful Prerogative of Us, our Heirs or Successors, *or contrary to the Faith and Allegance* due, by the legal Government of this Realm, from the said WILLIAM PENN, or his Heirs, or of the Planters, and Inhabitants of the said Province; and that, thereupon, any of the said Laws shall be adjudged and declared to be void, by Us, Our Heirs or Successors, under Our or their Privy Seal, that then, and from thenceforth, such Laws, concerning which such Judgment and Declaration shall be made, shall become void; otherwise the said laws, so transmitted, shall remain and stand in full Force, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof."

'The Act of Parliament for preventing Frauds and regulating Abuses in the Plantation Trade, contains many Regulations, and amongst others, the following.

'That all Governors, nominated and appointed by any Persons, or Proprietaries, claiming any Right or Propriety in any Islands or Tracts of Land upon the Continent of *America*, by Charter or Letters Patent, who shall be entitled to make such Nomination, shall be allowed and approved of, by his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, and shall take the Oaths enjoined by that, or any other Act, to be taken by the Governors or Commanders in Chief in other his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations, before their entering upon their respective Governments, under the like Penalty his Majesty's Governors and Commanders in Chief were, by the said Acts, liable to.

'The Act of Parliament for ascertaining the Rates of *Foreign Coins*, in her Majesty's Plantations in *America*, recites, that for remedying the Inconveniences which had arisen from the different Rates at which the same Species of *Foreign Silver Coins* did pass, in her Majesty's several Colonies and Plantations in America, her Majesty had issued her Proclamation of the Eighteenth of *June*, 1704, to settle and ascertain the Currency of *Foreign Coigns*, *(Coins,)* in the Manner and Words there following.

'And further recites, that, notwithstanding the said Proclamation, the same indirect Practices, as had been therein mentioned, were still carried on within some of the said Colonies or Plantations, and the Money thereby drawn from one Plantation to another in Prejudice to the Trade of her Majesty's Subjects.

'Wherefore, for the better enforcing the due Execution of the said Proclamation throughout all the said Colonies and Plantations, and for the more effectual remedying the said Inconveniencies thereby intended to be remedied;

'It was enacted, that if any Person, within any of the said Colonies or Plantations, as well those under Proprietaries and Charters, as under her Majesty's immediate Commission and Government, should, after the First of *May*, 1709, for the Discharge of any Contracts or Bargains, to be thereafter made, account, receive, take or pay any of the several Species of *Foreign Silver Coins*, mentioned in the said recited Proclamation, at any greater or higher Rate than at which the same was thereby regulated, settled, and allowed to be accounted, received, taken or paid, every such Person should suffer six Months Imprisonment without Bail or Mainprize, any Law, Custom or Usage, in any of the said Colonies or Plantations to the contrary notwithstanding; and should likewise forfeit *Ten Pounds* for every such Offence, one Moiety to the Crown, and the other Moiety to such Person as should sue for the same, to be recovered in Manner therein mentioned.

'Under a Proviso and Declaration, that nothing in the recited Proclamation, or in that Act contained, should extend to compel any Person to receive any of the said Species of *Foreign Silver Coins* at the respective Rates in the said Proclamation mentioned.

'And, under another Proviso and Declaration, that nothing in that Act contained should extend, or be construed to restrain her Majesty from regulating and settling the several Rates of the said Species of Foreign Silver Coins within any of the said Colonies or Plantations, in such other Manner, and according to such other Rates and Proportions, as her Majesty, by her Proclamation for that Purpose to be issued. should, from Time to Time, judge proper and necessary; or from giving her Royal Assent to any Laws thereafter to be made in any of the said Colonies or Plantations, for settling and ascertaining the current Rates of such Coins within the said Colonies or Plantations; but that such further Regulations might be made, and such Assent given, in as full and ample Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as the same might have been done in case that Act had not been made, and no otherwise, any thing therein before contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

'It has been usual in sundry of the Colonies, on the Continent in *America*, to print and issue Paper Bills of Credit, and to oblige Persons (by Acts passed there) to receive such Bills in Payment, at the Rate or Sum mentioned in such Bills; and some such Bills have been issued by Acts of Assembly in *Pennsylvania*.

'In some Colonies, the Value of those Paper Bills of Credit (being payable at distant Times, and the Fund not regularly applied) has miserably sunk; but that has not been the Case in *Pennsylvania* in particular.

'Complaints were made to the House of Commons, of great Quantities of Paper Bills of Credit, or Paper Money, issued in *some* of the *American* Colonies (not in *Pennsylvania* in particular) and of Mischiefs arising from the same; whereupon the House of Commons addrest the Crown, to issue Instructions, and the Lords Justices did issue circular Instructions to *all* the *American* Governors, as well those acting immediately under his Majesty, as those acting under Proprietaries.

'And the Instruction then sent to Colonel *Thomas* (who was then Deputy Governor of *Pennsylvania*) was in the following Words, *viz.*

By the LORDS JUSTICES, *Additional* INSTRUCTION *to* GEORGE THOMAS, *Esq; Deputy-Governor of his Majesty's Province of* Pennsylvania, *in* America; Or, to the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Province, for the Time being, *Given* at Whitehall, *the Twenty-first Day of* August, 1740, *in the Fourteenth Year in his Majesty's Reign.*

WHEREAS an Act of Parliament was passed, in the Sixth Year of her late Majesty Queen ANNE, entituled, *An Act for ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins, in her Majesty's Plantations in* America; and whereas Complaints have been made, that the said Act has not been observed, as it ought to have been, in many of his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *America;* by Means whereof many indirect Practices have grown up, and *various and illegal Currencies have been introduced,* in several of the said Colonies and Plantations, *contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of the said Act,* and to the Prejudice of the Trade of his Majesty's Subjects. In Consequence of such Complaints, an humble Address was presented, the last Sessions, by the House of Commons, to his Majesty. "That he would be graciously pleased to require and command the respective Governors of his Colonies and Plantations in *America, effectually to observe the said Act of the Sixth of Queen* ANNE." It is, therefore, his Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, and you are, hereby, strictly required and commanded to take the most effectual Care, for the future, that the said Act be punctually, and *bonaFide,* observed, and put in Execution according to the *true Intent* and Meaning thereof. And, to the End that his Majesty's Commands herein may be fully made known to all his Subjects within your Government, and that none of them may pretend Ignorance thereof, you are, hereby further required and commanded to publish this Instruction, in such Manner as may best answer his Majesty's gracious Intentions herein signified.

And whereas many and great Inconveniences have arisen in some of his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *America,* by passing Laws, for striking Bills of Credit, and issuing out the same, in Lieu of Money, making it obligatory on all Persons to take such Bills, in Payment of Debts, Dues and Demands; *whereby the good Intention of the aforementioned Act,* of the Sixth of her late Majesty Queen ANNE, "For ascertaining the Rates of *Foreign Coins* in her Majesty's Plantations in *America*" *has been frustrated*, and a great Discouragement has been brought on the Commerce of the Kingdom, by occasioning a Confusion in Dealings, and a Lessening of Credit, in those Parts. And whereas an humble Address was presented, the last Session, by the House of Commons to his Majesty, to the Effect following, *viz.*

That he would be graciously pleased to require and command the respective Governors of his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *America*, not to give Assent to, or pass, any Act, whereby Bills of Credit may be struck, or issued, in *Lieu of Money, without a Clause be inserted in such Act, declaring that the same shall not take Effect, until the said Act shall be approved by his Majesty.* It is, therefore his Majesty's Will and Pleasure, and you are hereby required, *upon Pain of his Majesty's highest Displeasure,* not to give your Assent to, or pass, *any Act,* whereby Bills of Credit may be issued, in Lieu of Money, *without a Clause be inserted* in such Act, declaring that the same shall *not take Effect*, until the said Act shall be approved by his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors.

Since the said Instruction was given (to Colonel *Thomas*, but directed, as before stated) a new Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. *Hamilton* has been appointed for *Pennsylvania*, by the Proprietaries, and approved by the Crown.

The beforementioned particular additional Instruction has not been repeated to Mr. *Hamilton*, any otherwise than as he is become now the Lieutenant-Governor of *Pennsylvania*, for the Time being.

But upon Mr. *Hamilton's* being approved for Lieutenant-Governor, the Crown issued its general Instructions, and, amongst other Things, ordered, that he should take a solemn Oath, to do his utmost, that all the Clauses, Matters and Things, contained in the said Act of Sixth of Queen ANNE, should be punctually, and *bona Fide*, observed, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof.—— Which Oath he accordingly took.

Besides this, on the Crown's approving Mr. *Hamilton*, it was on the Part of the Crown, required of him, and his Sureties entered into a Bond to his Majesty, in *Two Thousand Pounds* Penalty, conditioned *(inter alia)* "That if the said *James Hamilton* shall, from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter, so long as he shall continue Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province, observe, perform and obey, all such Directions and Instructions, which now are, or shall at any Time be given, or sent to him, by his Majesty, his Heirs and

Successors, or from any Person or Persons, now acting, or that hereafter shall act by Authority from his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, and *pursuant to*, and for the putting in Execution, the several Acts of *Trade and Navigation*, relating to the Plantations, *viz.*"

"*An Act* passed 12th CHARLES II. entituled, *An Act for the Encouraging and Encreasing the Shipping and Navigation.*

Here a great many Acts of Parliament are enumerated and amongst them,

An Act passed in the Sixth Year of the said Queen's Reign, entituled, *An Act for ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins in her Majesty's Plantation in* America.

"And all other Acts of Parliament, now in Force, or that hereafter shall be made, relating to the Plantation Trade; and shall do and perform all such Matters and Things, as the Governors of his Majesty's Plantations, by any Act of Parliament made, or to be made, shall be obliged or enjoined to do and perform; and shall, before his entering on the said Government, take the Oaths enjoined to be taken by the Governors and Commanders in Chief of other his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations, before their entering on their respective Government, as directed by the Act of the Seventh and Eighth Years of the late King WILLIAM, herein before-mentioned, *&c. &c. &c. Then to be void.*"

Matters standing thus, the People in *Pennsylvania*, have applied to Mr. *Hamilton*, their Lieutenant-Governor, to pass a Law, for enlarging, or adding more to, the Sum which they, at present, have standing out in Paper Money, or Bills of Credit, there.

He suppsing that a small Sum, to be added to their present Quantity, may not produce any great Inconveniences, would consent to an Act for that Purpose, provided they insert the *suspending Clause*, that the Act shall have no Force, until confirmed by the Crown.

But they insist on passing the Act, *without any such suspending Clause.*—— Which he declines doing;

As conceiving the Matter of *Money*, of *any* Sort or Kind, to be in its Nature, Part of the *Prerogative or Sovereignty* of the Crown, and that he is bound by the Instructions which was given by the Lords Justices in 1740 to Colonel *Thomas*, or to the Commander in Chief in *Pennsylvania*, *for the Time being*, and by his before-mentioned Oath and Bond, and by the Duty of his Office, to observe that Instruction, and not to pass any Act, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued, in Lieu of Money, *without inserting the suspending Clause*, and that it would be neither lawful, or safe, but an Offence in him, to pass any such Act, without that suspending Clause.

On the other Hand, the People insist on the Powers granted by the Charter, for passing *all* Laws *whatsoever*, as giving very ample Authority to him to pass the Law which they desire; and that the Crown having granted away such very full Powers, cannot even upon an Address from the House of Commons resume them again, or add further Limitations or Restrictions, than what are contained in the Charter; and, therefore, seem to think that although his Majesty might issue such Instructions, to *his own* immediate Governors, where there are no Charters, yet, that in *Pennsylvania*, where such a Charter subsists, such Instruction had no Force, even upon Colonel *Thomas* himself (to whom the same was *immediately* directed) during *his* Government, and more clearly so, in the Case of the present Governor, Mr. *Hamilton*, to whom the same additional Instruction has not been given, any otherwise than as he is now become Governor of *Pennsylvania* for the Time being.

Mr. *Hamilton* is desirous to oblige the People herein, it he may legally and safely do so.

And Your Opinion is desired,

QUERE. Whether Mr. *Hamilton*, Lieutenant-Governor of *Pennsylvania*, may legally and safely and without committing any Offence, or Breach of his Oath or Bond, or of his Duty to the King, pass, and give his Assent to, an Act of Assembly, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued in *Pennsylvania*, in Lieu of Money, without the suspending Clause, before-mentioned, being inserted therein?

I am of Opinion it is by no Means safe, or advisable, or consistent with his Duty, to pass such Bills, without a suspending Clause.

November 30, 1753. D. RYDER."

The Bill for preventing the Importation of *Germans*, or other Passengers or Servants, in too great Numbers, *&c.* was read the second time; and, after some Debate thereupon, the said Bill was re-committed to the Committee who brought it in, for Amendment.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* be added to the said Committee, and to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Arthur Patterson returned a Representative for the County of *Lancaster*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualification by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

The Governor's Message sent down with the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, *&c.* was again read, and considered, together with the Papers therein referred to; and, after some Debate, it was

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Arthur Patterson*, *Calvin Cooper*, *David M'Connaughy*, *John Smith*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Message.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of Yesterday, reported the same to the House; and it was read, Paragraph by Paragraph, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, with a Message in Writing, which were read, and are as follow, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'THE Secretary will lay before you a Letter I received last Night from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, notifying to me his Majesty's gracious Intention to send two Regiments of Foot from *Ireland*, to be compleated in *America*, and to raise two others in this Country, to be commanded by his Excellency Governors *Shirley* and Sir *William Pepperell*, for the Defence of his Majesty's just Rights and Dominions.

His Majesty will appoint a General Officer of Rank and Capacity to take upon him the Command in Chief of all his Forces in *North America*, who will soon be here with a Deputy Quarter-Master General, and a Commissary of the Musters, in order to prepare every Thing for the Arrival of the Forces.—— His Majesty has been also graciously pleased to order Arms, Cloathing, and other Necessaries, to be sent hither upon the present important Occasion; and likewise Ordnance Stores and Officers, and Attendants belonging thereto.

Such Proofs of his Majesty's gracious and paternal Regard and Affection for the Welfare and Security of his Subjects in *North America* cannot fail to excite the warmest Returns of

Duty and Gratitude in the Breast of every Man that regards his Country, his Family or himself.——And it gives we particular Pleasure that we are now sitting in General Assembly, as we have thereby not only an early Opportunity of testifying the grateful Sense we have of his Majesty's Care and Protection, but of exerting ourselves in the Service of our Country at this important Conjuncture, and setting a proper Example to the other Colonies.

You will observe by the Secretary of State's Letter, that it is his Majesty's Pleasure we should contribute as far as we can to the having about Three Thousand Men in Readiness to enlist; that we should provide a Quantity of fresh Provision for the Troops, and Necessaries for the Officers that may have Occasion to travel by Land, that the Orders to be issued by the Commander in Chief for quartering the Soldiers, and impressing Carriages, should be carried into exact Execution, and that all Necessaries should be provided for such Troops as shall arrive or be raised within this Government.

His Majesty expects, that as the several Articles above mentioned are of a local and peculiar Nature, and arising entirely within this Government, that the Charge thereof should be degrayed by his Subjects within the same.

You will also observe, Gentlemen, that it is his Majesty's Pleasure, that such Articles of Expence as are of a more general Concern, should be supplied from a common Fund, to be established for the Benefit of all the Colonies in *North America* collectively; for which Purpose he has ordered me to recommend it to you, in the strongest Manner, forthwith to raise as large a Sum as can be afforded, as the Contribution of this Province towards such common Fund, to be employed provisionally for the general Service of *North America*, until a Plan of general Union of his Majesty's Northern Colonies, for their common Defence, can be perfected.

'It is so much the Interest of the Colonies in general, and of this in particular, to exert themselves upon the present Occasion, to co-operate with his Majesty in repelling this Invasion, and to do what is so justly expected from us, that I cannot doubt but you will immediately proceed to the Consideration of the several Matters mentioned in the Secretary of State's Letter, and by making an ample Provision for the present Exigency, enable me to comply with the Royal Pleasure, and carry his Majesty's Commands into a strict and speedy Execution.

'As it may be necessary in the Course of this Expedition to impress Tradesmen, Horses and Carriages, in to his Majesty's

Service, and to seize Provisions of all Sorts, and other Necessaries; you will consider whether a Law will not be necessary to settle and establish the Wages or Hire to be paid for such Tradesmen, Horses and Carriages, as may be so impressed, and the Price of such Provisions and other Necessaries as may be seized upon the present Occasion, that no Disputes may arise between the Civil and Military Officers, and that all possible Assistance may be given to those that shall be employed in the public Service, without Injury to private Persons.

December 19, 1754. *ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS*."

SIR,

'HAVING informed you, in my Letter of *July* 5th, that the King had under his Royal Consideration, the State of Affairs in *North America;* I am now to acquaint you, that amongst other Measures that are thought proper for the Defence of his Majesty's just Rights and Dominions in those Parts, the King has not only been pleased to order two Regiments of Foot, consisting of Five Hundred Men each, besides commissioned and non-commissioned Officers, commanded by Sir *Peter Halkett* and Colonel *Dunbar*, to repair to *Virginia*, and to be there augmented to the Number of Seven Hundred each; but likewise to send Orders to Governor *Shirley* and Sir *William Pepperell*, to raise two Regiments, whereof they are respectively appointed Colonels, of One Thousand Men each; and also to sign Commissions for a Number of Officers to serve in the said two Regiments, and who will forthwith repair to *North-America* for that Purpose.

Whereas there will be wanting a considerable Number of Men to make up the designed Complements of the said Four Regiments, it is his Majesty's Pleasure, that you should be takeing the previous Steps towards contributing, as far as you can, to have about Three Thousand Men in Readiness to be enlisted; and it is his Majesty's Intention, that a General Officer of Rank and Capacity to be appointed to command in Chief all the King's Forces in *North-America*, a Deputy Quarter-Master-General, and a Commissary of the Musters, shall set out as soon as conveniently may be, in order to prepare every Thing for the Arrival of the Forces above-mentioned from *Europe*, and for the Raising of the others in *America*.

You will receive from that General, and the other Officers just mentioned, a full and exact Account of the Arms, Cloathing, and other Necessaries, to be sent upon this important Occasion; as likewise of the Ordnance Stores, and of the

Officers and Attendants belonging thereto; all which being ordered for this Service are such Proofs of his Majesty's Regard for the Security and Welfare of his Subjects, in those Parts, as cannot fail to excite you to exert yourself, and those under your Care, to take the most vigorous Steps to repel your common Danger; and to shew, that the King's Orders, which were sent you last Year by the Earl of *Holdernesse*, and were renewed to you in my Letter of the Fifth of *July*, have at last rouzed that Emulation and Spirit which every Man owes, at this Time, to his Majesty, the Public, and himself. The King will not therefore imagine, that either you, or the rest of his Governors, will suffer the least Neglect or Delay in the Performance of the present Service, now strongly recommended to you, in particularly with Regard to the following Points, *viz.*

That you should carefully provide a sufficient Quantity of fresh Victuals, at the Expence of your Government, to be ready for the Use of the Troops, at their Arrival.

That you should likewise furnish the Officers, who may have Occasion to go from Place to Place, with all Necessaries for traveling by Land, in case there are no Means of going by Sea: And that you should use your utmost Diligence and Authority, in procuring an exact Observance of such Orders as shall be issued, from Time to Time, by the Commander in Chief, for quartering the Troops, impressing Carriages, and providing all Necessaris for such Forces as shall arrive, or be raised within your Government.

As the Articles above-mentioned are of a local and peculiar Nature, and arising entirely within your Government, it is almost needless for me to acquaint you, that his Majesty will expect, that the Charge thereof be defrayed by his Subjects belonging to the same. But, with regard to such other Articles, which are of a more general Concern it is the King's Pleasure, that the same should be supplied by a common Fund, to be established for the Benefit of all the Colonies collectively in *North America;* for which Purpose you will use your utmost Endeavors to induce the Assembly of your Province to raise forthwith as large a Sum as can be afforded, as their Contribution to this common Fund, to be employed, provisionally, for the general Service of *North-America* (particularly for paying the Charge of levying the Troops to make up the Complement of the Regiments above-mentioned) until such Time as a Plan of general Union of his Majesty's Northern Colonies, for their common Defence, can be perfected.

You will carefully confer, or correspond, as you shall have Opportunities, upon every Thing relative to the present Service, with the said General, Sir *William Pepperell*, and Governor *Shirley*, or either of them; and as it is the King's Intention to give all proper Encouragement to such Persons who shall engage to serve upon this Occasion, you will acquaint all such Persons, in the King's Name, that they will receive Arms and Cloathing from hence, and that they shall be sent back (if desired) to their respective Habitations, when the Service in *America* shall be over.

As the several Governors in all the King's Provinces and Colonies in *North-America* will receive, by this Conveyance, a Letter to the same Effect with this which I now send you, they will be prepared at the same Time to obey his Majesty's Commands. And I am to direct you to correspond with all, or either of them occasionally, as you shall find it expedient for the general Service, I am,

SIR,

Your most obedient humble Servant.

THOMAS ROBINSON."

And the Secretary, addressing himself to the Chair, said

SIR,

"The Governor further commands me to inform the House, that *Scarroyady* and two other *Indians* are come to Town from *Aughwick* in their Way to *Onondago*, charged with a Message from the Western *Indians* to that Council; and that he recommends it to the House to join with him in such a Message, by these People, to the *Six Nations*, as may engage them at this critical Time to adhere firmly to the Interest of his Majesty and his Subjects, against the Encroachments of the *French*."

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

The foregoing Message from the Governor, with the Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, were again read; and, after some Time spent in considering the same, they were referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Answer to the Governor's Message of the Eighteenth Instant, being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE observe, with great Concern, our Governor apprehends himself "forbid by a Royal Instruction" from giving his Assent to the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, without a suspending Clause, that it shall not take Effect till his Majesty's Pleasure be known.

Such a suspending Clause we apprehend, would render that Grant entirely ineffectual as we are now circumstanced, if we had no other Objection to it, and therefore can by no Means agree to insert it in our Bill.

But the Governor is pleased to say, "as the Act of Parliament restraining the Four Eastern Governments from emitting Paper Currency, gives them a Power to strike Bills of Credit in case of Emergency, he hopes he shall be justified in thinking the Reason holds good as to us, who are (as he thinks) in the greatest Danger; and therefore, he will join with us in any Bill for striking what Sum we shall think our pressing Occasions demand, provided a Fund be established for sinking the same in five Years."

As the Governor does us the Justice to acknowledge, that he is convinced the Representatives of the Province act from upright Motives, and what they esteem to be its true Interest, he is also pleased to declare, "it is no small Mortification to himself, to be obliged to differ in Opinion from us and hopes, when we reflect on the Obligations he is under to pay Obedience to his Majesty's Instructions, that we will not press him to disobey them."

And, in order to shew us that he does not entirely rely upon his own Judgment, he has been pleased to lay before us the Opinion of Sir *Dudley Ryder*, the late Attorney General and present Chief Justice of *England*, on a State of the Case, as it regards the Force of Power of Royal Instructions upon the Governors of this Province.

We have the misfortune to differ in Opinion from the Governor, after considering the Case maturally as it now lies before us: nevertheless we do assure him, that though in a Matter of small Importance we might not, perhaps, be very tenacious of our own Sentiments, yet this case, our All is concerned, and if we should not act becoming the Rights our Birth, as *Englishmen* entitles us to, we might appear unworthy of the Regard we have already experienced, and have good Reason to hope for hereafter from a *British* Parliament.

The Case, then, as stated to Sir *Dudley Ryder*, at that Time the King's Attorney General, after reciting the several Powers granted by our Charter, as well as the Acts of Parliament of the Seventh and Eighth of WILLIAM the Third, and the Sixth of Queen ANNE, and the Lords Justices Instructions to

Colonel *Thomas*, in 1740, proceeds in the following Words; *that is to say,*

'Since the said Instruction was given (to Colonel *Thomas*, but directed as before stated) a new Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. *Hamilton*, has been appointed for *Pennsylvania*, by the Proprietaries, and approved by the Crown.

'The beforementioned particular additional Instruction has not been repeated to Mr. *Hamilton*, any otherwise than as he is become, now, the Lieutenant-Governor of *Pennsylvania*, for the Time being.

'But upon Mr. *Hamilton's* being approved for Lieutenant-Governor, the Crown issued its general Instructions, and, amongst other Things, ordered, that he should take a solemn Oath to do his utmost, that all the Clauses, Matters, and Things, contained in the said Act of the Sixth of Queen ANNE, should be punctually, and *bona Fide*, observed, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof. Which Oath he accordingly took.

'Besides this, on the Crown's approving Mr. *Hamilton*, it was, on the Part of the Crown, required of him and his Sureties entered into a Bond to his Majesty, in *Two Thousand Pounds* Penalty, conditioned *(inter alia)* "That if the said *James Hamilton* shall, from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, so long as he shall continue Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province, observe, perform and obey all such Directions and Instructions which now are, or shall at any Time be given, or sent to him by his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, or from any Person or Persons now acting, or that hereafter shall act by Authority from his Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and *pursuant to*, and for the putting in Execution, the several Act of *Trade and Navigation*, relating to the Plantations, *viz.*

'*An Act passed* 12th CHARLES II, entituled, *An Act for the Encouraging and Encreasing the Shipping and Navigation.*

Here a great many Acts of Parliamant are enumerated, and amongst them,

'An Act passed in the Sixth Year of the said Queen's Reign, entituled, *An Act for ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins in her Majesty's Plantations in* America.

"And all other Acts of Parliament now in Force, or that hereafter shall be made, relating to the Plantation Trade; and shall do and perform all such Matters and Things, as the Governors of his Majesty's Plantations, by any Act of Parliament made, or to be made, shall be obliged or enjoined to do and perform; and shall before his entering on the said Government, take the Oaths enjoined to be taken by the Governors and Commanders in Chief of other his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations, before their entering on their respective Governments as directed by the Act of the Seventh and Eight Years of the late King WILLIAM, herein before mentioned, *&c.* *&c.* Then to be void.'

'Matters standing thus, the People of *Pennsylvania* have applied to Mr. *Hamilton*, their Lieutenant-Governor, to pass a Law, for enlarging, or adding more to the Sum which they, at present, have standing out in Paper Money, or Bills of Credit, there.

'He supposing that a small Sum, to be added to their present Quantity, may not produce any great Inconveniences, would consent to an Act for that Purpose, provided they insert the *suspending Clause*, that the Act shall have no Force, until confirmed by the Crown.

'But they insist on passing the Act *without any such suspending Clause.* Which he declines doing:

'As conceiving the Matter of *Money*, of any *Sort* or Kind, to be, in its Nature, Part of the *Prerogative* or *Sovereignty* of the Crown and that he is bound by the Instruction, which was given by the Lords Justices in 1740, to Colonel *Thomas*, or to the Comander in Chief in *Pennsylvania, for the Time being*, and by his before-mentioned Oath and Bond, and by the Duty of his Office, to observe that instruction, and not to pass any Act, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued, in Lieu of Money, *without inserting the suspending Clause*, and that it would be neither lawful, or safe, but an Offence in him, to pass any such Act, without that suspending Clause.

'On the other Hand, the People insist on the Powers, granted by the Charter, for passing *all Laws whatsoever*, as giving very ample Authority to him to pass the Law which they desire; and that the Crown having granted away such very full Powers, cannot even upon an Address from the House of Commons resume them again or add further Limitations or Restrictions, than what are contained in the Charter; and therefore, seem to think, that although his Majesty might issue such Instructions, to *his own* immediate Governors, where there are no Charters, yet, that in *Pennsylvania*, where such a charter subsists, such Instruction had no Force, even upon Colonel *Thomas* himself (to whom the same was *immediately* directed) during *his* Government, and more clearly so, in the Case of the present Governor, Mr. *Hamilton*, to whom the same additional Instruction has not been given, any otherwise than as he is now become Governor of *Pennsylvania*, for the Time being.

'Mr. *Hamilton* is desirous to oblige the People herein, if he may legally and safely do so.

And YOUR OPINION is desired.

'QUERE. Whether Mr. *Hamilton*, Lieutenant-Governor of *Pennsylvania*, may legally and safely, and without committing any Offence, or Breach of his Oath or Bond, or of his Duty to the King, pass, and give his Assent to an Act of Assembly, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued in *Pennsylvania*, in Lieu of Money, without the suspending Clause, before-mentioned, being inserted therein?

'*I am of Opinion it is by no Means safe, or advisable, or consistent with his Duty, to pass such Bills, without a suspending Clause.*

November 30, 1753. D. RYDER.'

It appears that the Case, thus states to the Attorney General, regards only Emissions of Bills of Credit on *common* and *ordinary* Occasions; and, in our Opinion, very little, if at all, affects the present Bill: And it is remarkable, that there is not the least Notice taken of the Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, which Governor *Thomas* passed without a suspending Clause, by extending this very Excise Act for Ten Years; which we have now again extended for the same Term of Years only, and loaded it with a Grant of *Twenty Thousand Pounds.*

As Colonel *Thomas* gave his Assent to that Act after the Receipt of the additional Instruction which the Governor has now sent down with our Bill, and as we presume he has no other or later Instructions from the Crown, though he has since received the Royal Approbation, we hope he will not think himself more restricted by it, than the Gentlemen to whom it was immediately directed; who has never suffered in his Honour, that we know of, or incurred the King's Displeasure for giving his Assent to that Bill, and at this Time holds a Government of great Importance under the immediate Powers of the Crown.

Governor *Hamilton*, we find, entered into Bonds and Penalties (among other Things) "that he shall from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, so long as he shall continue Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province, observe, perform and obey all such *Directions* and *Instructions*, which *now are*, or shall at *any Time* be given, or *sent* to him, by his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, or from *any Person* or Persons, now acting, or that hereafter shall act, by Authority from his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, *and pursuant to*, and for putting in Execution the several Acts of *Trade and Navigation* relating to the Plantations, *&c.*" Which Bond or Bonds, of the like Tenor, we presume our Governor may have entered into before he received the Royal Approbation, and yet our late Governor seems clearly, in his Reasonings with former Assemblies, to have acknowledged he thought himself at Liberty to pass Acts of the Tenor of our present Bill for granting Money for the King's Use; and never offered a suspending Clause, notwithstanding his Bonds to the Crown: But whether he might, or might not, be safe in passing a Bill of the Kind mentioned in his State of the Case, could regard himself only, and does, by no Means, determine the Rights we claim under the Royal Charter. And we have the Pleasure to assure the Governor, we have been credibly informed, that the Board of Trade, about a Year ago, stated a Question to the Attorney and Solicitor General, with Respect to the Validity of this Instruction, of a suspending Clause, over Governments claiming particular Rights by Charters; to which they have not yet given any answer, that we can learn. And we know, that notwithstanding two Bills extending the Royal Instructions over Councils and Assemblies in *America* had been attempted in Parliament without Success, and a third Bill was brought in with the same Clause, yet it could not obtain a Passage there. And we are informed, that a noble Friend to Liberty and the Rights of the *British* Subject, a Member of that House, exposed this third Attempt so fully, upon the second Reading of the Bill, that the Clauses on this Head objected to were dropt without Division in the Committee. And until such Acts of Parliament shall be obtained, which we have good Reason to hope will never be imposed upon us, the Governor must agree with us, that it is our Duty to defend the Rights and Privileges we enjoy under the Royal Charter.

As in the present Case we are not bound by any Acts of Parliament, and are certainly clear of the Act limiting the Eastern Colonies, both as to the Force and the Intention of it, we hope the Governor, from his known Abilities and Goodwill to the Prosperity of this Province, will immediately discern the Difference between this Bill and Acts of Assembly creating Bills of Credit on *common* and *ordinary* Occasions.

What Force Royal Instructions may have on Bills of Credit passed on common and ordinary Occasions is not immediately before us and may be considered at a proper Time. But we hope the Governor, notwithstanding any penal Bond he may have entered into, will, on Reflection, think himself at Liberty, and find it consistent with his Safety and Honour, to give his Assent to this Bill, which may, at this Time, be of such great Service to the *British* Interest in *America*.

But if we should unhappily still differ in Opinion, notwithstanding these Reasons, and such as have been offered by our former Assemblies, we must be obliged, as our last Resource, to apply to the Crown for Redress, or to the Lords of Trade, or our Proprietaries, as the Case may require; in which, we doubt not, the Governor will favour us with his Assistance. And in order to furnish ourselves with every Thing necessary for our own Vindication, and that this Case may appear in its full Light, we entreat the Governor will be pleased to inform us, whether the Royal Instruction is the only Impediment; or whether he has any further Instructions from our Proprietaries, which influence him in refusing his Assent to our Bill? And, if he has, that he would be pleased to lay those Instructions before us for our Consideration."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *Arthur Patterson* do carry it up to the Governor, together with the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, *&c.*

The Petition of *Callender* and *Teaff* was again read, and considered; and the House being informed, that *Michael Teaff*, one of the Petitioners was now in Town;

Ordered, That the said *Teaff* do attend this House this Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, P. M.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, and the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, *&c.* report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The Secretary, by Order of the Governor, informed the House, that *Scarroyady*, with his Son-in-Law, were this Day before the Council, and acquainted them with the Purport of their Message to the *Six Nations* at *Onondago*, which should be communicated to the House as soon as the Minutes of Council of this Day were compleated. That the Governor was informed by *Scarroyady*, that his Son-in-Law was charged with a Message from the *Owendaets*, to enquire what their Brethren the *English* designed to do in regard to the late Encroachments of the *French*, and having heard since he came to Town, that the King of *England* intended to send over a Number of Troops to assist in repelling those Invaders, he was willing, if the Governor thought proper, to return to his Nation, and acquaint them with the joyful News; the Governor therefore desired the Opinion of the House, whether it would be most advisable for *Scarroyady's* Son-in-Law to return now to the *Ohio*, or go to *Onondago* with *Scarroyady*. Also, that as *Scarroyady*, and the *Indians* accompanying him, were in Want of Shoes, and some Necessaries for their Journey, the Governor requested the House would make Provision for the same.

The House taking the foregoing Message into Consideration;

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that it would be most proper for *Scarroyady's* Son-in-law to return to the *Ohio* as soon as conveniently he can.

Resolved, That this House will allow the Charges of supplying *Scarroyady* and his Companions with Shoes, and such other Necessaries as they may have Occasion for, to enable them to proceed on their Journey.

The House being informed that *Michael Teaff* was attending, according to Order, he was called in; and having answered such Questions as were put to him by the House, he was directed to withdraw.

Resolved, That before this House will make any Allowance for *Callender* and *Teaff's* Account, that the same shall be proved on Oath or Affirmation before some Magistrate of this Province.

Ordered, That the said Account be referred to the Committee of Accounts, who are to examine such Vouchers to the same, as may be produced by the said *Callender* or *Teaff*, and report thereon to the House.

The Governor's Message of Yesterday, with the Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, were again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Stretch*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, and *George Ashbridge* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Message, and report the same to the House.

Upon a Motion made, it was

Resolved, That *Robert Charles*, Esq; be Joint-Agent with *Richard Patridge*, Esq; for this Province at the Court of *Great-Britain*, for the remaining Part of the current Year; and that their Salaries be equal.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Nineteenth Instant, reported the same to the House, and it was read by Order, approved, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Which being done, the same was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE undoubted Proofs his Majesty has ever given of his gracious and paternal Affection for all his Subjects, however distant from his Royal Presence, and the fresh Marks we have now before us of his Care and Regard for the Welfare and Security of his Subjects in *North-America*, excite in us the warmest Returns of Duty and Gratitude; and we hope we have fully testified, that we have nothing more at Heart in all our Deliberations, than to answer the reasonable Expectations of the Crown from this young but loyal Colony. We have chearfully passed a Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, which now lies before the Governor for his Approbation, and we hope will answer all the Purposes recommended to his care by Sir *Thomas Robinson's* Letter of the Twenty-sixth of October last. And as we cannot presume the Military Officers will or ought to have any Power of impressing Tradesmen within this Province, so we think the other Parts of the Governor's Message of the Nineteeth Instant which relate to the Mode of settling the Value of such Seizures or other Injuries private Persons shall hereafter receive, may remain under our Consideration without any considerable Inconvenience."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *David M'Connaughy* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Resolved, That *James Wright* and *John Wright* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order.

The Committee of Accounts made a Report in Writing on *Callender* and *Teaff's* Account, which was read and is as follows, *viz.*

YOUR Committee have examined and deliberated on the Matters and Things set forth in the Petition and Account annexed, referred to them, and are of Opinion, that allowing Accounts for Goods delivered by *Indian* Traders to any *Indians*, without immediate Directions from the Government, may prove a bad Precedent; nevertheless, as it appears to your Committee, that *Robert Callender* and *Michael Teaff* did deliver to the *Indians* some Goods, for which we do not find they have received any Pay and it appears in some Measure the *Indians* were then in Necessity; your Committee therefore think it necessary to allow them *Forty Pounds* in full Discharge thereof. And we are of Opinion, the Expresses mentioned by *Robert Callender* ought to come recommended from the Governnor.

All which we submit to the House.

EVAN MORGAN,	WILLIAM CALLENDER,
JOSEPH FOX,	JOSEPH HAMTON,
JOSEPH STRETCH,	THOMAS CUMMINGS.
JAMES PEMBERTON,	

And the said Report being again read, and considered, together with *Teaff's* Qualifications to the said Account;

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifty-six Pounds* be allowed to the said *Callender* and *Teaff*, in full for the Goods by them delivered to the *Half-King* and other *Indians*, in *May* last, as set forth in their Petition and Account exhibited to the Assembly on the Fourteenth of last *August*.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County and City of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners understand that this House have now under Consideration a Law for the better removing the Dangers the Inhabitants of this Province are daily exposed to from the infectious Disorders which the Foreigners yearly imported labour under, and also for preventing for the future such Hardships and Grievances as those poor Strangers have hitherto suffered; the Petitioners therefore pray, that *Daniel Mackinet*, senior, may be appointed the Health Officer, for putting the said Law in Execution, he being a Person in whom, the Petitioners apprehend a special Confidence may be placed, as well for his known Integrity and Care, as Knowledge in the *German* and *English* Languages.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *John Knowles*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed that this House is now preparing an Act for the more effectual Prevention of Diseases and Infectious Distempers occasioned by the Importation of Foreigners, *&c.* the Petitioner therefore prays, that he may be appointed the Health Officer for putting the said Act in Execution.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a written Message, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'WHEN your Bill for striking *Twenty Thousand Pounds, &c.* was before me, I duly considered the dangerous Circumstances in which the Province was involved; and the absolute Necessity of speedy Measures to remove the *French* from their Encroachments; and this induced me, instead of adding a Clause to suspend the Force of the Act till his Majesty's Pleasure could be known, to send it back to you, that you might frame such an One as I was at Liberty to give my Consent to; and at the same Time to signify to you, that I would agree to the Striking any Sum the present Emergency might require, provided Funds were established for sinking the same in Five Years, that being the Term prescribed by an Act of Parliament for regulating Paper Money in the Eastern Governments; and I thought the Reason of that Act extended here, though the Force of it did not; and I hoped that I should be excused, if I so far relaxed the Instruction upon the present Occasion, as to act agreeable to the Rule laid down by Parliament for the neighboring Governments, and I am sorry, for the Sake of the Public, to find by your Message that you have so far misapprehended me, as to conceive that I intended to insist on the suspending Clause in this dangerous Situation of Affairs, which the Words of my Message do in no wise import, ant that upon the whole, you refuse to accede to the reasonable Measure I proposed.

'The Case stated for Sir *Dudley Ryder's* Opiniin, was drawn up with Intention to know how far the Instruction was binding upon the Lieutenant-Governor for the Time being, and not whether Colonel *Thomas* has acted right or wrong, in passing an Act for striking *Five Thousand Pounds*, without a suspending Clause, to which the Case stated neither could nor ought to have any Reference.

'It does not appear to me that the Opinion only regards common and ordinary Emissions; the Instruction itself, you are sensible, is very general, and that all the late Assemblies Objections are placed in the fairest and strongest Light in the State of the Case. Colonel Thomas's Conduct is no rule to me, nor will mine be for any One that may succeed me; and if we judge from his not transmitting that Act to *England*, we may presume that he did not look upon that Particular as the most recommendatory Part of his Administration. It is true, he never was censured for it, and indeed, how could he, as the Transaction was never made known to his Majesty, or his Ministers? And he now enjoys a considerable Trust under the Crown. But you must be convinced, that what principally recommended him to his Majesty's Favor, was the warm Zeal he discovered for his Majesty's Service, a ready obedience to his lawful Commands, and an hearty Inclination to promote the public Service, by annoying his Majesty's Enemies, and endeavoring to provide for the Defence of that Part of his Majesty's Dominions then under his immediate direction.

'As the Fact you mention relating to the Case laid by the Lords of Trade before the Attorney and Solicitor General, is not of public Notoriety, it is quite unknown to me; but should it be as your say, whenever they shall report their Opinion, and his Majesty shall think fit to issue different Instructions, I shall endeavor to pay the proper Obedience to them; but while this Matter is only under the Consideration of the Attorney and Solicitor General, if in Truth it be so, I do not see that I can take any Notice of it.

'The Debates in Parliament, or whatever any noble Member was pleased to say on that Occasion, have, I think, little Connection with the Matter now before us. But you will please to remember, that though the Parliament did not agree to give a general Sanction to all Instructions from his Majesty; yet this in particular was the Result of the humble Addresses of both Houses to his Majesty for that Purpose, and it cannot be doubted that they will support their own Act, if it should ever come before them.

I must join with you in Opinion, that the only Method to have the Validity and Force of that Instruction finally and authoratively determined, is by an Application to his Majesty, who can, if he pleases, withdraw or suspend the Force of it for any Time he thinks proper; and I will, as I think it my Duty at all Times, but more especially so at present, lay before his Majesty's Ministers this whole Affair, to whom you are at Liberty, and I am desirous you should apply. But while that Matter rests before his Majesty for his Determination, which cannot be immediately had, let us exert ourselves against the *French* Invaders, who have already possessed themselves of great Part of this Province, and not leave them at Liberty to make further Encroachments, and their Savage Allies to make what Incursions, and commit what Cruelties, they please.

'As I was, in a great Measure, a Stranger to your Constitution, and was so highly to be entrusted by the Proprietaries, it seemed quite necessary that I should receive Instructions from them; all which are so perfectly calculated to promote and secure the Prosperity and real Happiness of the Inhabitants of this Country, and so reasonable in themselves, that I can safely assure you, that nothing is required of me by them, that I should not think it my Duty to do if they had never been given me.

'And though I think it not quite decent, and I believe unprecedented, for a Governor to be called upon for a Sight of his Instructions, yet I shall communicate them to the House whenever the public Service shall require it; and and accordingly I take this Opportunity to acquaint you, that I have it, among other Things, in Charge from the Proprietaries, to recommend to you, in the most pressing Manner, to provide at this Time for the Defence and Safety of the Province, not only by affording such Aids as his Majesty from Time to Time may require, but by establishing a regular Militia within this Province, and providing Arms and Stores of War, and building proper Magazines in the most convenient Places: All these Things they desire may be done in such Manner as to be least burthensome to the Inhabitants, and particularly so as not to oblige any Persons to bear Arms who are or may be conscientiously scrupulous against it.

'This, Gentlemen, in Pursuance of my Instructions from the Proprietaries, I now earnestly recommend to you to do with all imaginable Dispatch, as this Province never was in more imminent Danger than it is at present, having, as you know, a very large Body of *French* Troops in the Back Parts of it, assisted by great Numbers of *Indians* in their Alliance, and the Government without Men acquainted with military Discipline, Arms or Ammunition. And as his Majesty and his Ministers, as well as the Proprietaries, depend upon me to give them true and exact Accounts of the State and Circumstances of the Province committed to my Care, I must desire you will give me a clear and determinate Answer to this Point, that I may be able to lay the same before his Majesty in such a Manner as may make the Interposition of Parliament entirely unnecessary.

'Gentlemen, while I had your Message of the Twentieth Instant under my Consideration, and was preparing the foregoing Answer to it, I received your's of the Twenty-first, in Answer to mine of the Nineteenth, accompanying Sir *Thomas Robinsons* Letter of the Twenty-sixth of *October* last; and am really concerned to find, that instead of providing for the Articles of Expence recommended to you by his Majesty, in a Manner agreeable to his Royal Directions, you insist on my passing the Bill in the Shape you have sent it up which I before informed you I could by no Means do, as being contrary to his Majesty's Instructions, and now again assure you, that I will not assent to that or any other Bill for emitting Paper Money, but upon the Terms above-mentioned.

'And here, Gentlemen, I think it necessary to say, that there are some other Matters in your Bill, which would have merited my further Consideration, but I was unwilling to mention any Thing that might impede his Majesty's Service.

'I cannot but observe by the Minutes of Council, that a Dispute subsisted between you and the late Governor upon this very Head, for a considerable Time, which might certainly have received his Majesty's Determination, had you applied for it; and am very sorry that such a Dispute should be revived in the very Beginning of my Administration, and at a Time when the common Safety requires that we should lay aside all other Considerations but our present imminent Danger, and rise up as one Man to drive the *French* from our Borders, and secure our Country against their Encroachments for the future.

Was there no other Method of raising Money for the present Service, but that you have proposed and insisted upon your Conduct might appear in a more favourable Light, But as you now have, or ought to have, by the Laws in Being, in Bank, between *Fourteen Thousand* and *Fifteen Thousand* Pounds, and a Revenue of *Seven Thousand Pounds* a Year; as this City and Province are in rich and flourishing Circumstances, and as the People are numerous, and burthened with none or very trifling Taxes, I cannot consent to pass the Bill you propose, it being a direct Breach of a Royal Instruction intended to enforce an Act of Parliament of the Sixth of Queen Anne, which you know has been shamefully slighted and disregarded in this and the neighbouring Provinces.

'The Reason for my having recommended it to you to consider, whether a Law would not be necessary to settle and establish the Wages or Hire to be paid for such Tradesmen, Horses and Carriages, as might be impressed for his Majesty's Service by military Men, was in Favour of Liberty, and intended to restrain them from impressing of Freeholders, and to prevent Disputes between the Owners of Carriages and other Necessaries; and that if the Exigency of Affairs should render it necessary to impress any, it might be only single Men, and such as have no Habitations or Settlements among us, whose Service may be wanted in the Course of this Expedition.

'Upon the Whole you will consider, Gentlemen, in what Light you will appear to his Majesty and a *British* Parliament, who are expending great Sums of Money for the Defence of these Colonies, while you, the very Province most concerned as being invaded, instead of contributing towards your own Defence, are entering into an ill timed Controversy concerning the Validity of Royal Instructions, which might have been determined long ago, and may be delayed to a more Convenient Time, without any the least Injury to the Rights of the People.

'Let me therefore, Gentlemen, once more recommend the present unhappy Circumstances of this Country to your most serious Consideration; and entreat you to lay aside (for the present at least) every Thing that may admit of any Dispute, and enter heartily into such Measures as may best answer the public Expectations, and assist his Majesty in the Measures he has concerted, and is carrying into Execution, for the Preservation of this Country.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

December 24, 1754.

And the said Message being again read, and considered, was, after some Time spent therein, referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's last Message being again read, and considered;

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *James Burnside* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that as it appears by his last Message, that he chooses not to pass the Bill now before him, for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, the House desires he would be pleased to return it to them.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he did not know it was customary to return the Bill, but had given it to the Secretary at the same Time with the Message, who, he expected, would have disposed of it as had been heretofore usual; that the Governor then sent for the Bill to the Secretary's, and having received it, delivered it to them, according to the Desire of the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

The Governor's Message of Yesterday was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, it was

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *Arthur Patterson*, *David M'Connaughy*, *John Smith*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Message, or to such Parts thereof as they shall think most necessary for the House to answer at this Time.

Ordered, That Candles be brought in.

And they were brought in accordingly.

The Committee to whom the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers, in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province, was committed for Amendment, reported the same to the House, with sundry Alterations they had made therein.

A Petition from *Daniel Mackinet*, senior of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be appointed the Health Officer, in the Bill now before the House for preventing the Spreading of infectious Distempers, *&c.* was presented to the House and read, and *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, reported, that they were of Opinion it was most immediately necessary for the House to answer that Part of the Governor's last Message which relates to Proprietary Instructions; and that the other Parts of the said Message might, without any Inconvenience, be postponed for future Consideration.

And the said Committee having prepared a Draught of an Answer to that Part of the Governor's last Message which relates to Proprietary Instructions, laid the same before the House; and it was read by Order, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Charles Norris*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed that some of the Members of this House have lately represented the Necessity of having a Person to take Care of the Library belonging to the Assembly; the Petitioner therefore begs Leave to offer himself for that Service.

And the House taking the same into Consideration,

Resolved, That *Charles Norris* be Keeper of the Assembly Library, and that he observe such Directions therein as shall be hereafter given him by this House.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

BEFORE we enter upon the Consideration of the other Parts of the Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant, we must acknowledge ourselves engaged to return him our hearty Thanks for informing us, that, "as he was in a great Measure a Stranger to our Constitution, and, to be so highly entrusted by the Proprietaries, it seemed quite necessary that he should receive Instructions from them.—— And notwithstanding he may think it not quite decent, or may believe it unprecedented for a Governor to be called upon for a Sight of his Instructions, yet he will communicate them to the House whenever the public Service shall require it."

And in Return to this candid Declaration, and the Assurance he is pleased to give us, as well as the ready furnishing us with other Parts of those Instructions, we beg Leave to inform the Governor, that we not only apprehend it the undoubted Right of a *British* Parliament to address the Crown for such Information as they judge absolutely necessary to their Deliberations; but also, that the Proprietary Instructions to our former Governors, have been repeatedly laid before the Assemblies of this Province.

We find a saving Clause or Restriction in the Proprietary's Commission to Colonel *Evans* was laid before the Council, with a solemn Decision of that Council, of which WILLIAM PENN, the Younger, was the principal Member, "that the said saving Clause was void in itself." And this Decision, with other Proprietary Instructions, were laid before the Assembly by Sir *William Keith*, in the Year

1724; whereupon that House drew up a "Remonstrance, by way of Address, to the Honourable the Proprietary Family, to shew wherein the said Instructions were an Infringement upon the Privileges granted by Charter to the People of this Province." And again, in the Year 1738, Colonel *Thomas*, in his Message to the Assembly, on a Bill then lying before him, for reemitting and emitting *Eighty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, after enumerateing, among other Things, such Obligations as arise from the Act of Parliament made in the sixth Year of the late Queen ANNE, "for ascertaining the Rates of *Foreign Coins* in the Plantations of *America*," as well as the Letter from the Lords for Trade and Plantations to Governor *Gordon*, his immediate Precedessor, declares, with great Candour, "that the then Assembly might see that he did not industriously seek for Arguments to disappoint them of a Bill they had so much at Heart, he sent them a Copy of the Proprietaries Instruction to him on that Head." And the said Instruction appears upon our Minutes of that Year.

This Instance of Colonel *Thomas's* Justice and Sincerity towards the Representatives of the Province at that Time, produced the desired Effect, as we hope it always may hereafter in like Cases. And accordingly we find, after several Messages, and confering with the then Governor on that Head, he passed the Bill, which has finally received the Royal Approbation, and gives the Sanction to the Paper Currency, now passing among us.

We therefore, under these Considerations, and for that we are of Opinion those Proprietary Instructions, which the Governor is pleased to inform us our Proprietaries gave him on their appointing and entrusting him with this Government, are the principal, if not the sole, Obstructions to the Passing our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use; and also, for that whatever Bills we might prepare for this, or any other Purpose, after all the Expence to the Country, and after all our Pains in framing them, would be liable to the same Difficulties, unless we could know what those Proprietary Instructions are. We say, under these Considerations, and from the Regard our Governor is pleased to express for our Charter, and our Liberties, we earnestly request he would now candidly communicate those Instructions to us, as the Time when "the public Service requires it" in the most particular Manner: For, as we are now under an absolute Necessity of addressing the Crown, in Support of our Civil and Religious Liberties, in which we have the Pleasure of the Governor's Concurrence, and indeed his Desire that we should apply to his Majesty on this Occasion, we must, in Justice to ourselves, and in Discharge of the Duty we owe to those we represent, make those Proprietary Instructions, and the Force and Validity of them, the great End of our humble Petition to the Crown at this Time, unless the Governor shall be pleased to convince us to the contrary."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* and *Moses Starr* wait upon the Governor with the same.

An Account from *Michael Teaff*, amounting to *Sixty-four Pounds One Shilling* and *Six-pence*, for Diet and other Necessaries, supplied the *Half-King*, &c. was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

A Petition from *Thomas Bourne*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be appointed the Health Officer for putting in Execution the Act now preparing by the House, for preventing the Spreading of infectious Distempers, *&c.* was presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Part of the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* was read, and considered, and the Remainder referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Speaker's Account for Disbursements for the Use of the House, *&c.* and were of Opinion, that the same ought to be allowed; and that *Three Pounds Seventeen Shillings* and *a Penny* thereof should be paid by the Superintendants of the State-house, and *Eight Pounds Three Shillings* and *Five-pence*, the Remainder of said Account, by the Executors of late Treasurer, out of the Money in their Hands belonging to the Province.——To which the House agreed.

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to further Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House resumed the Consideration of the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* and, after a considerable Time spent therein, the same was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, was read the second Time, Paragraph by Paragraph, and debated; and sundry Alterations being made therein at the Table, it was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message, in Writing, and the Examinations of two *French* Deserters, taken before the Chief Justice, which were read; and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'IN Answer to your Message of the Twenty-sixth Instant, I think it necessary to observe, that though the House of Commons have certainly a Right to address the Crown for Information, and though former Governors of this Province, when they thought it necessary, have laid particular Instructions before the Assemblies, yet it does not from thence appear, that you have a Right to have all the Governor's Instructions laid before you, whenever you think proper to demand them; and I am still of Opinion, that your Application for that Purpose is irregular and unprecedented.

'It is certainly true that I have Proprietary Instruction, as I am informed all Governors, from the first Settlement of the Province, have constantly had; and indeed it could not be otherwise, seeing the Proprietaries are answerable for the Conduct, and bound by the Acts, of their Governors. But I cannot think it at this Time for his Majesty's Service, or the Interest of this Province, to communicate them to you, further than I have already done; especially as you claim it as a Right, and seem industriously to seek for these Instructions, as a fresh Matter to dispute upon, when the Publick Service requires that you should be otherwise employed; and as you express so great a Dislike to Proprietary Instructions, that in the very Message, wherein you desire they may be communicated to you, you declare you intend to make the Force and Validity of them the great End of your Petition to the Crown; and this without so much as knowing what those Instructions are, further than that the Proprietaries earnestly recommend it to you to provide for the Defence of the Province, in the Manner mentioned in my last Message.

'When your Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds* was before me, I found it was contrary to the Royal Instruction, directed to the Lieutenant-Governor of this Province for the Time being, and, in the Opinion of Sir *Dudley Ryder*, in Force, and binding upon me; and without any further Examination I sent it back to you, with that Opinion, and by a Message informed you, that I could by no Means agree to it, as it was contrary to that Instruction; notwithstanding which, you are pleased to tell me, *that you are of Opinion the Proprietary Instructions are the principal, if not the sole, Obstruction to Passing that Bill.* If this be really your Opinion, Gentlemen, I should be glad to know upon what Information you found it, and how you came so intimately acquainted with my private Sentiments, as to know, that when I said one Thing, I meant another.

'I was, and am, very desirous that you should apply to the Crown, to determine the Force of the Royal Instruction relating to Paper Money, as his Majesty may certainly withdraw the same whenever he pleases: But as I do not know, or believe that the Civil or Religious Liberties of the People of this Province are at all invaded by that Instruction, I could have no Intention to consent to an Application in Support of them. Any Application therefore of that Sort, Gentlemen, must be your own, in which I have not, nor do I desire to have, any the least Concern.

'An Invansion of the Civil and Religious Liberty of a People, which are in their Nature sacred, and ought to be so esteemed by all Governments, is among the worst of Crimes, and is greatly aggravated when done by One who is bound by Duty and Oath to preserve those Blessings, and to protect the People in the Enjoyment of them. His sacred Majesty, who through the Course of a long and happy Reign has studied to preserve the Rights and Liberties of all his Subjects, and has always made the Laws and Constitution of his Kingdoms the Rule and Measure of his Government, I am sure, disdains a Thought of doing or approving any Thing that may be injurious to them; and I am satisfied a *British* Parliament will never esteem a Royal Instruction, issued at their own Request, and intended to enforce a good and wholesome Law, in the least Destructive of the Civil or Religious Liberties of any Part of his Majesty's Subjects, whatever you the Representatives of *Pennsylvania* may do. And it gives me particular Concern, that you should purposely enter into a Dispute about that Instruction, and choose to express and publish such Sentiments of his Majesty's Government, at a Time like this, when a *French* Army are fortifying themselves in your Country; and I earnestly recommend it to you to consider, whether such Expressions may not have a Tendency to alienate the Affections of the People of this Province from his Majesty's Person and Government, and thereby greatly obstruct the Measures he is taking, at a vast Expence, for the Preservation and Protection of his Subjects upon this Continent.

'I have lately received Intelligence, that a Body of nigh Six Thousand of the best Troops of *France*, selected, and sent over upon this particular Service, are arrived at the Lower Fort upon the *Ohio*, and are employed in fortifying that Country. This must convince us that the Court of *France* has formed some grand Design with regard to this Continent; and as they have made their first Attack upon this Province, without Doubt on Account of its being the most plentiful and only Defenceless Part of his Majesty's Dominions; it behoves us, in a particular Manner, to exert our selves upon the present Occasion: I must therefore, Gentlemen, once more intreat you to lay aside every Thing that may admit of Dispute between us till a more favourable Season, and enter seriously into the Consideration of the Danger to which your Country is exposed; and not only grant the Supplies recommended by the Crown, but enable me to raise a considerable Body of Men, to be employed in Conjunction with the Troops his Majesty has destined for this Service; and by establishing a regular Militia, and providing the necessary Stores of War, leave us no longer, for Want of Discipline, an easy Prey to a much Weaker Body of Men than are now encamped within a few Days March of this City.

December 30, 1754. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province, being transcribed, was read the third time;

And a Blank having been left in the said Bill for the Name and Person to be appointed Health Officer, the several Petitions for that Office were read; and, after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, it was

Resolved, That *Spencer Trotter* be appointed the Health Officer for this Province.

And his Name was inserted in the Bill accordingly.

And a Clause being proposed, by one of the Members, to be added to the said Bill, by way of Rider, the same was read, considered, and ordered to be transcribed.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Clause proposed to be added, by way of Rider, to the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers or Servants, in too great Numbers. *&c.* being transcribed, was again read, considered, agreed to, and ordered to be inserted in the said Bill: ———which being accordingly done;

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *James Pemberton* carry up the said Bill to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The Governor's two last Messages were again read; and the House observing, that the Governor calls on them to shew upon what Information they found their Opinion, that he is restricted by Proprietary Instruction from passing the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use (in which it is proposed to extend the *Excise Act* for Ten Years, to raise a Fund for sinking the same) it was therefore

Ordered, That the several Messages which passed between the late Governor and Assembly, in the Years 1750 and 1751, in relation to the Proprietaries bearing a proportion Part of the Expences on *Indian* Affairs; and the Report of the Committee, in *June* 1751, appointed to search the Records and Minutes of the House to find in what Manner those Expences had been usually defrayed, *&c.* with the Resolves of the House upon the said Report, be, this Afternoon, taken up and read, together with the Representation from the Assembly to the Proprietaries in 1751, the Proprietaries Answer thereto, and the Report of a Committee of Assembly upon the said Answer, in 1753.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province, return, and report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Pursuant to the Order of this Morning, the several Messages, Reports, *&c.* of the Assembly, in the Years 1750, 1751, and 1753, relating to the Proprietaries bearing a proportionable Part of the Expences on *Indian* Affairs, were taken up and read; and, after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, it was

Ordered, That the Representation from the Assembly to the Proprietaries in 1751, the Proprietaries Answer thereto, laid before the House in *May*, 1753, and the Report of the Committee of Assembly, at that Time, on the said Answer *(neither of which have as yet been made public)* be now printed with the Minutes of this Sitting.

And the said Representation, Answer and Report, do accordingly follow in these Words, *viz.*

To the Honourable THOMAS PENN *and* RICHARD PENN, *Proprietaries of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *&c.*

The REPRESENTATION *of the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the said Province, met at* PHILADELPHIA, *the Twenty-third of the* Sixth Month, 1751.

May it please the PROPRIETARIES,

THE first Settlers of this Province unanimously concurred with your worthy Father to lay the Foundation of their Settlements, in doing Justice to the Native *Indians*, by coming among them as Friends, upon an equitable Purchase only: This soon appeared to be the best and safest Way to begin the Infant Settlement, by the Veneration and Love it procured from those People, who kindly supplied the Wants of many then destitute of the Necessaries of Life; and, as the Settlements encreased, retired to make Room for their new Guests, still preserving that Esteem and Veneration which had been so strongly impressed upon their Minds. By this voluntary Retreat, all were satisfied, for there was Room enough for all; and the good Faith so carefully kept with those who were nearest, gave the more distant *Indian* Nations that favorable Opinion of us, which our continuing to act on the same Principles of Justice hath supported to this Day: They entered freely into our Alliance; they became the Guards of our Frontiers against the *French* and *French Indians*, by obliging them to observe a Neutrality towards us, as we experienced during the Course of the last War; and we have Reason to think we now share largely in their Affections. But this beneficial Friendship hath neither been procured nor continued without a very great Expence to the People of this Province, especially for some Years past, wherein we find the Assemblies (demonstrating that their Unwillingness to contribute to military Preparations, was neither from Want of Public Spirit, nor through unseasonable Parsimony, but from the Motives of Conscience only) opened their Hands liberally to all the Purposes of Peace. among those who could best, under God, preserve our distant Settlements against the Depredations of an active and powerful Enemy; without strictly enquiring at that Time, how far the People alone ought to bear the Burden of those Expences. But as that Burden became yearly more and more heavy, the Assemblies were naturally led to request the Assistance of the Proprietaries, and we hoped an Application so apparently reasonable might have their Approbation. We are therefore much concerned to receive an Answer so different from our Expectations, in which the Proprietaries, are pleased to say, 'that they do not conceive themselves under any obligation to contribute to *Indian* or any other public Expences, even though Taxes were laid on the People for the Charges of Government: But as there is not One Shilling levied on the People for that Service, there is the less Reason for asking any Thing of them. Notwithstanding which, they have charged themselves with paying to the Interpreter, much more than could be due to him on any Treaties for Land, and are at this Time at the Expence of maintaining his Son, with a Tutor, in the *Indian* Country, to learn their Language and Customs for the Service of the Province, as well as of sundry other Charges on *Indian* Affairs. That they have been at considerable Expence for the Service of the Province both in *England* and here; that they purchase the Land from the *Indians*, and pay them for it; and that they are under no greater Obligation to contribute to the public Charges than any other Chief Governor of any of the other Colonies."

Upon which we beg Leave respectfully to represent to our Proprietaries, that the Preserving a good Understanding with the *Indians*, more particularly advances the Interest and Value of the Proprietary Estate than that of any other Estate, in the Province, as it gives the Proprietaries an Opportunity of purchasing at a low Price, and selling at high Rates, great Tracts of Land on the Frontiers which would otherwise be impracticable.

That therefore, though they may conceive themselves under no Obligation by Law, they are under the much stronger Obligations of natural Equity and Justice, to contribute to the Expence of those *Indian* Treaties and Presents, by which that good Understanding, so beneficial to them, is maintained. That although formal Taxes have not been laid in this Province during some Years past, for the Support of the Proprietaries Lieutenant-Governor, and defraying the Charges of *Indian* Treaties, yet the Interest of our Paper Money is a virtual Tax on the People, as it arises out of, and is paid by, their Labour, and our Excise is a real Tax, yielding about *Three Thousand Pounds per Annum*, which is principally expended in those Services. besides the Tax of Licenses of various Kinds, amounting to considerable Sums yearly, which have been appropriated wholly to the Support of the Governor. That the Assemblies of this Province have always paid the Accounts of our *Indian* Interpreter for his public Services to his full Satisfaction; and we believe future Assemblies will not fail to do, in that Respect, what may reasonably be expected from them, when his Son shall be thought qualified to succeed him. Nor do we doubt their Discharging all just Debts for Expences properly chargeable to the Province, whether made here or in *England*, whenever the Accounts are exhibited. We are nevertheless thankful to our Proprietaries for their Care in our Affairs, and their Endeavours to provide a well qualified Successor to our present Interpreter, as such a One may be of Service to the Public, as well as to the private Interests of their Family.

We would farther entreat our Proprietaries to consider, that their great Estate not lying in *Britain*, is happily exempt from the Burthens borne by their Fellow Subjects there, and cannot, by any Law of ours, now in Being, be taxed here. That therefore, as they are not obliged, on Account of that Estate, to bear any Part of the Charge of any War the *British* Nation may be involved in, they may with us more freely contribute to the Expence of preserving Peace, especially on the

Borders of their own Lands, as the Value of those Lands so much depends upon it.

We beg Leave further to observe to our Proprietaries, that the Act forbidding all others to purchase Lands of the Natives, establishes a Monopoly solely in their Favor; that therefore they ought to bear the whole Charge of Treaties with the *Indians* for Land only, as they reap the whole Benefit. And that their paying for Land (bought, as we conceive, much the cheaper for the Provincial Presents accompanying those Treaties) which Land they sell again to vast Advantage, is not a satisfactory Reason why they should not bear a Part of the Charge of such other Treaties, as tend to the common Welfare and Peace of the Province.

Upon the Whole, since the Proprietaries Interests are so constantly intermixed, more or less, with those of the Province, in all Treaties with our *Indian* Allies; and since it appears that the Proprietaries think they already pay more than their Share, and the People (who have disbursed near *Five Thousand Pounds* within these Four Years on those Occasions) think they pay abundantly too much, we appprehend that the surest Way to prevent Dissatisfaction on all Sides, will be, to fix a certain Proportion of the Charge of all future Provincial Treaties with the *Indians*, to be paid by the Proprietaries and Province respectively; and this, we hope, they will on further Consideration agree to, not only as it is in itself an equitable Proposal, but as it may tend to preserve that Union and Harmony between the Proprietaries and People, so evidently advantageous to both.

Signed, by Order of the House,

ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker*."

The
PROPRIETARIES
ANSWER to the
Representation of the
HOUSE
of REPRESENTATIVES
Laid before the House,
May 23, 1753.

GENTLEMEN,

1. THE *true and real Interest of the People whom you represent is, as it ought to be, the principal Object of our*

REPORT on the PROPRIETARIES *Answer*, &c.

In Obedience to the Order of the House, your Committee have considered the REPRESENTATION *made by a former Assembly to the Proprietaries concerning* Indian *Affairs, with their* Answer *delivered to this House; and since all further Application to the Proprietaries*

Concern: We shall, on all Occasions, shew them that we have it constantly in View: We will use, our utmost Endeavours to procure it, at the Expence of our own private Fortunes, whenever it appears to us necessary; and, in considering the Matter of your Representation, shall endeavor to act such a Part as would be thought just, by Persons wholly disinterested, both with regard to us and them.

2. That the Representatives of the People are not so disinterested, seems most certain; wherefore, supposing they saw this Matter in a Light very different from that in which it appears to us, and that they were not actuated by any Inclination on the one Hand to oppose our Interest, or on the other to influence the weaker Part of the Electors by appearing zealous for theirs (which we would trust and hope is the Case) yet we may continue to differ in Sentiments from them on the Necessity of the desired Assistance, without being liable to any Imputation of neglecting the Interest of the Province in the Opinion of the World.

3. After we had ordered our Governor to give you the Answer, which he did, to your former Application, we had no Reason to expect a Repetition of the Application directly to ourselves; as you on the Subject of that Representation is now forbidden, and they seem to require that their Answer should be put on the Minutes of Assemby, we are of Opinion that the Representation not hitherto made public should accompany it, with such of the following Remarks made on each Paragraph of the said Answer as the House shall think proper.

1. ON the first Paragraph of the Answer, we shall just observe, that the Declaration it contains is a noble One, and worthy of the Rank our Proprietaries hold among us: we only wish that in the present Case they had thought fit to give a Proof of the Sincerity with which it is made, such as would have been satisfactory to others, since our Assemblies are esteemed interested Judges.

2. The Insinuation in the second Paragraph, as if the Assembly were actuated by any Inclination to oppose the Proprietary Interest, we look upon to be Injurious; and as groundless, as the other Supposition, that the Members might have in View their future Election, of which we shall take farther Notice when we come to the sixth Paragraph, where it is again repeated. No Instance can be given of that Assembly's opposing, or attempting to op-

might well suppose we had considered the Matter before we had returned our first Answer, and the Repeating the Request could only produce the Repeating the Answer; the Occasion for which does not appear to us. It is possible, that one Purpose may be, in order to shew, more publicly, this Difference in Opinion between us and yourselves; and if that was ever intended, it will be convenient that we should set this Matter in a clear Light (although it may make our Answer longer than we could wish) that the true State of the Matter may appear.

4. *We did not speak our own Sentiments only when we before said, we were under no greater Obligation to contribute to the public Charges than any Chief Governor of another Colony: That was the Opinion of the Lords of Trade, when, upon an Application made to the King, by many considerable Inhabitants of the Province, that he would be pleased to give some Orders for their Defence; the Counsel, employed by the Agent of the House of Representatives, insisted, that, if any such Preparations were necessary, the Proprietaries ought to be at the Expence of them: But their Lordships declared it their Opinion, that we were*

pose the Proprietary Interest. It rather appears that they thought they were consulting those Interests *in the very Point in Question*, if it be consistent with the Proprietary Interest to have a good Understanding with the People; since the Representation expressly proposes a Method of preventing Misunderstandings for the future.

3. In the third Paragraph the Representation is treated as a mere Repetition of a former Application, and therefore improper, as 'repeating the Request could only produce the Repeating the Answer:' But the Representation appears to your Committee to contain, not only a repetition of the Request, but new Reasons in Support of it, and Answers to such as had been given for refusing it. And such a Repetition of an Application we think justifiable in all Cases; except where we can be sure that the first Thoughts of the Persons applied to, are infallably right; or if wrong, that they are incapable of hearing Reason.

4. With Regard to the Opinion said to be declared by the Lords of Trade, "that our Proprietaries were no more obliged to contribute to Public Charges than any other Governor in Chief of the King's Colonies;" your Com-

not obliged to be at any Expence of that Nature, more then any other Governor in Chief of the King's Colonies.

mittee presume to suppose their Lordships could only mean, that as Governor in Chief of the Proprietaries were not obliged *by law;* and not, that as Proprietaries they were not obliged *in Equity.* The latter is the Point at present in Dispute between the Proprietaries and People of *Pennsylvania,* though in this Paragraph evaded. The Assembly mention no other Obligation but such as in their Opinion arises from Reason and Justices; they humbly submit.

Their Reasons to the Proprietaries Consideration, and from their Equity only, they hope a Compliance with the Request. The position understood as the Proprietaries would understood as the Proprietaries would understand it, must as well hold good the *Governed* as the *Governors* of the Colonies; for should the wealthiest Inhabitants say, he ought to pay no more towards public Charges than any other Inhabitant, he would be right, considering him merely as an Inhabitant; but as a Possessor of Property, he would be wrong; and therefore Laws are made, obliging such as would not otherwise be just, to pay in Proportion to their Substance.

5. *We are sensible that our honoured Father in the first Settlement of the Province, and at all Times after, was strictly careful to do Justice to the Indians, and purchased Land from them before it was settled; but, we believe, always at his own Charge; at least we do not find a single Instance of a Purchase having been made at the Expence of the People.*

So that what Share they had in such Purchases, we are at a Loss to know, other than the Benefits and Conveniences

5. That fifth Paragraph seems intended to combat an Assertion that the Purchases from the *Indians* were made with the People's Money. As we find no such Assertion in the Representation, we do not think it necessary at present to enquire how far, or in what Instances, the People have had a Share directly or indirectly in any such Purchases. The Representation only imtimates, that the House conceived, Treaties for the Purchase of Land and were made on more reason-

which arose from mutual Exchange of friendly Offices with the Natives.

able Terms to the Proprietaries for the Provincial Presents accompanying such Treaties:

And that this was an additional Reason why the Proprietaries should bear a proportionable Part, at least, of the Expence of such Presents; since, besides their Share of "the common Benefits and Conveniencies, which arise from the mutual Exchange of Friendly Offices with the *Indians*," they reap a particular Advantage to themselves, and that a very considerable One. This Reason we apprehend is not answered in the present Paragraph; it is only evaded, by changing the State of the Question. A Subtlety, in our Opinion, unworthy the Dignity of the Proprietaries and Chief Governors of a Province.

6. *Had the necessary public Charges amounted to more than the Revenue of the Province, and a general Tax been laid on the People to defray the same, there might then have been some Colour to desire that we should contribute; but as no such Tax has, for very many Years been, or need to be laid, and the Charge of Government amounts to little more than the one Half of the common and ordinary Revenue, the pressing thus unseasonabaly for our Contribution, appears, we conceive, as an Attempt to induce the weakest of the People to imagine yourselves to have an uncommon Regard to their Interests, and to be therefore the most proper Persons to be continued as their Representatives; and the Matters which might the rather induce us so to think, are the solemn Repetition of this Request, and treating it as if it was a Matter of great value and*

6. On the sixth Paragraph we could observe that the Request to the Proprietaries, that they would be pleased *to bear a Part* of *Indian* Expences, was founded on the supposed Equity of the Case; and that they would consent to *settle the Proportion* to be paid by them, was proposed as a Means of preventing Dissatisfactions between them and the People. To these Points, this Paragraph only answers, that the People *are able enough* to pay these Expences without the Assistance of the Proprietaries. This likewise seems to be starting a new Question, and one that is beside the present Purpose: For though it were true the People are *able to pay*, it does not follow that they should therefore *Pay unjustly*, nor is it likely that they will be *pleased* and *satisfied* with so doing, for such a Reason. The Proprietaries are likewise *able to pay*, they have Revenue enough, but

Consequence; the Time of making your last Representation, just before an Election; and the printing the Report, and most extraordinary Resolutions, which were the Foundation of such your Representation, in your Votes, long before your Address could, by any Possibility, come to our Hands; which are such Matters as could not escape our Observations, and which would almost persuade us, that is was intended as an Address to the People, rather than to us.

they do not think this a sufficient Reason even to *pay a Part*, why then should it be thought sufficient to induce us to *pay the Whole?* The Charge contained in this Paragraph, "that the Application was only an Attempt to induce the weakest of the People to imagine the House had an uncommon Regard to their Interests, and were therefore the most proper Persons to be continued their Representatives at the ensuing Election," your Committee think an absolute Mistake, and unsupported by the least Degree of Probability. For there had not been for some Years, nor was there expected to be, nor has there since been, any Contest at Elections between the Proprietary and popular Interests; nor if there had, would it have been necessary to take such Measures, the Proprietaries having, of late Years, no formidable Share of the People's Love and Esteem. Nor was the supposed Address in Fact made to the People; for the Representation has never yet been published; nor were the Votes containing those Resolutions published till after the Election was over. Nor is the Situation of an Assembly-man here so advantageous, as to make it worth his while to use Artifice for procuring a Re-election; for when the Smallness of the Allowance, the Expence of Living, the Time he is absent from his own Affairs, and other Inconveniences, are considered, none will suppose he can be a Gainer by serving the Public in that Station.

7. *Wherefore, on this Occasion, it is necessary that we should inform the People, through yourselves, their Representatives, that as, by the Constitution, our Consent is necessary to their Laws, at the same Time that they have an undoubted Right to*

7. But whether Assembly-men may or may not expect any gainful Advantages from that Station, we find our Chief Governors informing us in pretty plain Terms in the seventh Paragraph, that they themselves are not without such Expectations from

such as are necessary for the Defence and real Service of the Country; so it will tend the better to facilitate the several Matters which must be transacted with us, for their Representatives to shew a Regard to us and our Interest: For, considering the Rank which the Crown has been pleased to give us in Pennsylvania, *we shall expect from the People's Representatives, on all Occasions, a Treatment suitable thereto; and that, whilst we desire to govern the Province according to Laws only, they should be as careful to support our Interests, as we shall always be to support theirs.*

theirs. They tell us, "their Consent is *necessary* to our Laws, and that it will tend the better to *facilitate* the Matters which must be transacted with them, for the Representatives to shew a Regard to their INTEREST." That is, as we understand it, though the Proprietaries have a Deputy here, supported by the Province, who is or ought to be fully impowered to pass all Laws *necessary for the Service of the Country*, yet, before we can obtain such Laws, we must *facilitate their Passage*, by paying Money for the Proprietaries which they ought to pay, or in some other Shape make it their *particular* INTERESTS to pass them.

We hope, however, that if this Practice has ever been *begun*, it will never be *continued* in this Province; and that, since, as this very Paragraph allows, we have an undoubted Right to such Laws, we shall be always able to obtain them from the Goodness of our Sovereign, without going to Market for them to a Subject.

Yet however easy it may be to understand that Part of this Paragraph which relates to the Proprietaries *Interest*, your Committee are at a Loss to conceive why, in the other Part of it, the People are to be acquainted, "that the Crown has been pleased to give the Proprietaries a *Rank*, and that they expect from the Representatives a *Treatment* suitable thereto." We cannot find on perusing the Representation in Question, that it contains any Treatment unsuitable to their Rank. The Resolve of the House was, that to prevent Dissatisfactions on all Sides, they should be requested, in the most *reasonable* and *most respectful* Manner, to agree upon a Proportion of *Indian* Charges to be paid by them and the Province according to Justice: And it may be submitted to the Judgment of all impartial Persons, whether the Representation drawn in Pursuance of the Resolve, was not both reasonable in itself, and *respectful* in the Manner. It was not, as the Proprietaries represent it, an Address to the Public. It is not to this Day made public. It was a private Application to themselves, transmitted to them through the Hands of their Governor. Their *true* INTEREST (which they will always find to consist in just, equitable and generous Measures, and in securing the Affections of their People) was consulted in it; and one suitable Means proposed to obtain that END.——As to *Rank*, the Proprietaries may remember, that the Crown has likewise been pleased to give the Assemblies of this Province a Rank; a Rank which they hold, *Not by hereditary Descent*, but as they are the voluntary Choice of a free People, unbribed, and even unsolicited. But they are sensible that *true Respect* is not necessarily connected with *Rank*, and that it is only from a Course of Action suitable to that Rank they can hope to obtain it.

8. *We are truly concerned, that you lay us under the Necessity of acquainting the Public with the State of the Revenue of the Province; you have, in Part done it already, by acknowledging the Amount of the Excise to be* Three Thousand Pounds *a Year. The Interest of the Paper Money, as we conceive, is more than that Sum, which makes the common Revenue of the Province above* Six Thousand Pounds *a Year; the annual Expence of Government for a Series of Years (including* Indian *Charges) amounts to little more than Half that Sum: The Interest is paid by the People who, no Doubt, find greater Advantage in the Use of the Money than the Interest they pay for it, otherwise they would not be so solicitous to be admitted to borrow as they always have been. That Interest Money therefore can-*

8. Your Committee are quite surprized at the Concern the Proprietaries are pleased to express in their eighth Paragraph, on their being, as they say, laid under a Necessity of acquainting the Public with the State of the Revenue of the Province: As if the State of that Revenue had ever been a secret; when it is well known, and the Proprietaries themselves know, that the Public Accounts are yearly settled, stated, printed, and published by the Assembly, and have been so for these Thirty Years past. Whatever private Reasons the Proprietaries may have to make a Secret of their Revenue, we know of none to make one of the Revenue of the Province, nor has it ever been attempted.—Their following Observations, concerning the Nature of our Taxes, and the Distinction between general and particular Taxes,

not, with any Propriety, be called a Tax laid on the Province, or a Burden on the Inhabitants. The Excise itself is not a general Tax, to which all the Inhabitants must contribute, as it is paid by such only who buy Wine and spirituous Liquors, under certain Quantities; so that many People pay nothing of that Tax. Of all this Revenue, about Four Hundred Pounds *a Year has, on an Average for Twenty Years past, (and great Part of that Time during War) been expended in Presents to the* Indians, *and Charges on their Account; which we cannot conceive to be a large Sum, in Proportion to the Revenue of the Province, for so great and important a Service as that of keeping the United Nations of* Indians *in the Interest of* Great-Britain: *We believe every disinterested Person will think the Sum very small, and, from the Manner of its being raised, not all burdensome to the People: Besides which, had not Half that Money been expended on those Accounts, it is most certain all the same Excise would have been paid.*

seem to to your Committee not so just and accurate as might be expected: For we cannot conceive, that the Willingness of People to subject themselves to the Payment of Interest or Excise, by taking Money on Loan or consuming spirituous Liquors, makes either the one or the other less a Tax. The Manner of laying a Tax, the easy Method of levying it, and the Benefits arising from the Disposition of it, may all tend to induce People to pay it willingly; yet it is still a Tax. And indeed all Taxes ought, upon the whole, to produce greater Good to a People, than the Money kept in their Pockets could do: In such Case, Taxes are no Burdens: but otherwise they are, Taxes, seemingly particular, are also more general than they are supposed to be: The labouring Man must live: Excise the Materials of his Subsistence, and he generally finds Means to get more for his Labour

After estimating our whole present Revenue, as if it had been the same for Twenty Years past, and would certainly continue, though the Proprietaries know it depends on temporary Acts near expiring, the Renewal of which is at best dubious, they conclude that *Four Hundred Pounds* a Year for *Indian* Expences is a small Sum, and that we are under no Necessity of being frugal, on this Account, of the public Money, This *Four Hundred* a Year is the Sum that they find has been paid on an Average for Twenty Years past, and they take no Notice of its being growing Charge, and that for the Four last Years before the Representation it amounted to near *Twelve Hundred* a Year, which we conceive *disinterested Persons* will think a very large Sum: And although the same Excise might have been raised, if not Half that Money had been expended, it does not seem to us to follow, that the Proprietaries ought not to have paid their just Proportion of it. If the Sum be small, their Proportion of it must have been smaller: And the Money, so saved, might have been applied to some other Use, beneficial to the Public; or have remained ready in the Treasury for any Emergency.

9. *The whole Sum paid in Twenty Years for* Indian *Services is not more than, on a common Computation, our Family has paid in the same Time for Duties and Excises here, for the Support of his Majesty's Governments; and which we chose to mention, in Answer to that Part of your Representation, wherein you, unadvisedly, publish to the World, that our Estate, in America, is exempt from the Burdens borne by Fellow Subjects in* Great-Britain; *such Matter might much more properly have been avoided; and at the same Time that we shew you, that we do pay all other Taxes here, that on Land only excepted, we must advise you to be very careful, not to put People here in Mind of that single Exemption. Several Proposals have been made for laying Taxes on* North-America, *and it is most easy to forsee, that the self-same Act of Parliament that shall lay them on our, will also lay them on your Estates and on those of your Constituents.*

9. On the Ninth Paragraph your Committee will only observe, that the People of *Pennsylvania* do likewise pay Duties and Excise for the Support of his Majesty's Government, and other Taxes, which, considering their Ability, are perhaps proportionably equal to those paid by the Proprietary Family, or any other Subjects in *England.* We pay indeed as much as an Infant Colony can well bear, and we hope and believe the Justice of a *British* Parliament will never burden us with more. The Proprietaries Exemption was not published till now at their own Instance. It was made use of as a private Motive to themselves only in the Representation.

10. *We cannot allow that you have always paid your Interperter to his Satisfaction, because we know we*

10. On Enquiry, we have Reason to believe that the Interpreter's Bills of Charge against the Province, have

have charged ourselves with Gratifications to him, when the Assembly has refused to pay him what he thought his Services deserved; and we make no Doubt he can remember such Instances: However, with respect to any Expences of that Sort, and many others here, we entered into them without any Expectation of being repaid, and should think it far beneath us to send the Accounts of them to the House of Representatives, as your Agent, employed by yourselves, might do for the Expences incurred by him. What we might reasonably expect is a thankful Acceptance of our Endeavors to serve the Public; and if you do not think proper to make even that Return, we shall, nevertheless, be fully satisfied with the Consciousness of having rendered the Province all the Services in our Power.	always been allowed and paid; and where his Accounts have contained blank Articles for his Services, he has been asked what would satisfy him, and the same has been allowed. We suppose the Instances alluded to, wherein the Assembly did not fully satisfy him, must have been such as the Proprietaries were concerned in by the Purchase of Lands, and a Part might Accordingly be left for them to pay. We believe our Assemblies always have been, and we hope always will be ready to acknowledge gratefully any Services rendered to the Public by the Proprietaries; and not merely to acknowledge them, but to make adequate Returns.
11. *We do not conceive that any Act of Assembly does, or can establish, what you call a Monopoly in us for the Purchase of Lands; We derive no Right or Property from any such Law. It is under the King's Royal Charter that we have the sole Right to make such Purchases; and it is under that same Charter that every Settler has a Right, through us, to the Estate he possesses in the Province. The Act itself, which you seem to allude to, acknowledges this*	11. Whether the Monopoly of Lands, in Favour of the Proprietary, was established by the Royal Grant, or by Acts of Assembly, or by both your Committee do not think it material at this Time to dispute, since the Reasoning in the Representation remains the same, *viz.* That those in whose Favour such Monopoly was erected, ought at least to bear a Part of the Expence necessary to secure them the full Benefit of it.

Right to be so granted to us by the Charter, and is only declaratory thereof of to the People, advertising them of a certain Truth, that they are liable, according to the Laws of Great-Britain, *to Penalties for contravening such Rights.*

12. *Your Assertion that Treaties for Land are made at a less Expence to us, on Account of Provincial Presents being given at the same Time, does not appear to us to be founded on Fact: The last Purchase was made on no other Account, but purely to save the Province the Expence of making another Present to some* Indians *who came down after the Time that the principal Deputation had received the Presents intended for the Whole and were on their Return back; and the Land was bought very dear on that Account. Other Treaties for Land have been made when Provincial Presents have not been given; and we do not, or ever did, desire that the Inhabitants should bear any Part of the Expence of* Indians *who come down solely at our Request to consent to the Sale of Lands, unless they stay on other public Business also; and whenever they have come down on both Accounts, we are sensible the Expence has been divided in a Manner very favorable to the Public.*

12. In the Twelfth Paragraph, three Things appear somewhat extraordinary to your Committee. 1. That the Proprietaries should deny that Treaties for Land are made at less Expence an Account of Provincial Presents accompanying them; which we think any disinterested Judge would at least allow to be probable. 2. That they should say the last Purchase was made on *no other Account*, but *purely* to save the Province the Expence of a Present; as if they had no Occasion to purchase more Land of the *Indians* or found no Advantage in it. 3. That to prove such Purchases were not the cheaper on Account of Provincial Presents accompanying them, they should give an Instance in which, them themselves say, the Purchase was the dearer for want of such Presents. If Purchases are dearer to the Proprietaries when no Provincial Presents accompany them, does not this clearly confirm the Assertion of the Assembly, that they are the cheaper when there are such Presents? And does it not prove what the Proprietaries deny?

13. *We are far from desiring to avoid contributing to any public Expence which it is reasonable we should bear a Part of although our Estate is not, by Law, liable to be taxed. As we already have been, so we doubt not we always shall be, at a far greater Expence in attending the Affairs of the Province, then our Estate could be taxed at, if all the Estates in the Province were rated to the Public Charges, which would be the only fair Way of establishing a Proportion. If we were willing to consent to any such Matter, the Value of our Estate and of the Estates of all the Inhabitants, ought to be considered, and the whole Expence proportionably laid upon the whole Value; in which Case, you would find, that the Expence which we voluntarily submit to, out of Affection to the Inhabitants, is much more than such our Proportion so laid would amount to: Besides these general Expences, the First of us sent Cannon, at his own Charge, to the Amount of above* Four Hundred Pounds Sterling, *for the Defence of our City of* Philadelphia, *neglected by a late House of Representatives; which alone, is such a Sum as the Proportion of a Tax on our Estate would not in many Years amount to. And, as this is the Case, we are not disposed to enter into any*

13. It appears by their Thirteenth Paragraph that the Proprietaries think the Part they voluntarily submit to bear, and expect always to bear, of public Expences, is greater than their Proportion, equitably laid, would amount to. If this be so, and they are, as they say, "far from desiring to avoid contributing to any public Expence which it is reasonable they should bear a Part of, although their Estate is not by Law liable to be taxed;" your Committee are at a Loss to conceive, why they should refuse, "to enter into any Agreement for the Payment of any particular Proportion of *Indian* or other public Expences," when such Agreement might save them Money, and is proposed to prevent Dissatisfactions, and to preserve Union and Harmony between them and the People; unless it be to shew their utter Contempt of such Union and Harmony, and how much they are above valuing the People's Regard.

The Charge on former Assemblies, that they neglected the Defence of *the Proprietaries City,* your Committee cannot but think unkind, when it is known to the World, that they gave many *Thousand Pounds* during the War to the King's Use, besides paying near *Three Thousand Pounds* at one Time, to make good the Damages done to the Masters of

Agreement with the House of Representatives for Payment of any particular Proportion of Indian *or other public Expences,* but shall leave it to *them (to whom it of Right* belongs) *to provide for such Expences,* as *they shall judge necessary for the Public Service.*

Servants, by the irregular and oppressive Proceedings of the Proprietaries Lieutenant; and that their not providing Cannon to defend the City, was not from Neglect, but other Considerations set forth at large in the printed Proceedings of those Times, needless now to be repeated. At the same Time it may be remembered, that though the Defence of the Proprietaries City, as they are pleased to term it, by Batteries of Cannon, was more their Interest (we will not say Duty) than any other Persons whatsoever, and they now represent it as a Thing so necessary, yet they themselves really neglected, and even discouraged, it; while some private Gentlemen gave Sums nearly equal to that they mention, and many contributed vastly more, considering their Circumstances, by which Means those Batteries were not only compleated in Season, but the Defence of both Town and Country in that Way provided for; whereas this boasted Assistance of *Four Hundred Pounds* worth of Cannon, was sent like *Venetian* Succours, after the Wars were over. Yet we doubt not, but the Proprietary who sent them has long since had the Thanks of those who received them, though we cannot learn that they ever were favoured with any from him, for what they did and expended in Defence of his Share of the Province Property.

14. *As you desire to appear willing, on your Parts, to ease your Constituents of a small Part of the* Indian *Expence, by throwing it upon us, we shall, on our Part, and hereby do, rerecommend it to you, to give them a real and far greater Relief, by taking off a large Share of that only Tax which is borne by them. As the general Expence amounts to little more than* Three Thousand Pounds *a Year, we conceive it may very well be provided for out of*

14. The Fourteenth Paragraph of the Proprietaries Answer seems calculated merely for the same Design with which they charge the Representation, *viz.* to amuse the weaker Part of the People. If they are really disposed to favour the Drinkers of spirituous Liquors, they may do it without a Law, by instructing their Lieutenants to abate Half the Licence Fees, which would enable the Retailers to sell proportionably cheaper; or to

the Interest of the Paper Money, and one Half of the present Excise; especially if we shall be induced, from the State of your Trade (which we expect soon to receive) to consent to an Encrease of your Paper Currency. This would ease the Inhabitants of about Fifteen Hundred Pounds *a Year, which would be felt by many of them when they would not be sensible of the Trifle you propose we should contribute to the Public Expences. We have directed the Governor to consent to such a Law when you shall think fit to present it to him.*

refuse Licences to more than Half the present Number of Public Houses, which might prevent the Ruin of many Families, and the great Increase of idleness, Drunkenness and other Immoralities among us.

15. *As we shall ever in the first Place endeavor to promote the real Interest of the good People of* Pennsylvania, *we make no Doubt of preserving an Union and Harmony between us and them, unless Men of warm or uneasy Spirits should unhappily procure themselves to be elected for Representatives, and should, for the Supporting of their own private Views, or Interest, Influence their Brethren, otherwise honest and well-designing, to espouse their Cause; in such Case, indeed, Disputes may arise, wherein we shall engage with the utmost Reluctance; but even then, as we shall make the general Good the Rule of our Actions, we shall, on all such Occasions, if ever they should happen steadily, and without wavering, pursue Measures the most likely to conduce to that good End.*

15. In Return to the good Resolutions expressed by the Proprietaries in their fifteenth Section, your Committee hope that future, as well as past Assemblies, will likewise endeavor to make the Public Good the Rule of their Actions, and upon all Occasions consult the *true* Interests and Honour of the Proprietary Family, whatever may be the Sentiments or Conduct of any of its particular Branches. To this End, we think the honest and free Remarks contained in this Report, may be more conducive than a Thousand flattering Addresses. And we hope, that when the Proprietaries shall think fit to reconsider this Matter, they will be persuaded, that agreeing to an equitable Proportion of Expence will be a good Means of taking away one Handle of Dissention from "Men of warm uneasy Spirits, if such should ever unhapily procure themselves to be elected."

16. *The Representation being annually chosen, we are aware that we are not writing now to the same Persons who sent the Representation to us; the Persons most forward to push on a Measure (which, from the answer, we directed our Governor to give to the former Application he was desired to make to us, must be supposed disagreeable) may not now be in the House, but may be succeeded by more prudent Persons, returned for their Places, who would be careful not to press a Matter too far in which the Rights of the People are not really concerned: However, the Answer we give must be to the Representation sent us. And we desire, in any Matter of the like Nature, that the House will be satisfied with such an Answer as the Governor may have Orders to give on our Behalf.*

THOMAS PENN
RICHARD PENN."

16. Yet if the Proprietaries are really desirous of preserving an Union and Harmory between themselves and this People, we cannot but be surprized at their last Paragraph, whereby they endeavor to cut off the Assemblies Access to them, in Cases where the Answer received from their Deputies, may not be thought agreeable to the Public Good. No King of *England*, as we can remember, has ever taken on himself such State, as to refuse personal Applications from the meanest of his Subjects, where the Redress of a Grievance could not be obtained of his Officers. Even Sultans, Sophys, and other Eastern absolute Monarchs, will it is said sometimes sit whole Days to hear the Complaints and Petitions of their very Slaves; and are the Proprietaries of *Pennsylvania* become too great to be addressed by the Representatives of the Freemen of their Province? If they must not be reasoned with, because they have *given* Instructions, nor their Deputy because he has *received* them; our Meetings and Deliberations are henceforth useless; we have only to know their Will, and to obey.

To conclude: If this Province must be at more than *Two Thousand Pounds* a Year Expence, to support a Proprietary's Deputy, who shall not be at Liberty to use his own Judgment in passing Laws (as is intimated to us in the fourteenth Section of the Answer we have been considering) but the Assent must be obtained from Chief Governors, at Three Thousand Miles Distance often ignorant and misinformed in our Affairs, and who will not be applied to or reasoned with when they have given Instructions, we cannot but esteem those

Colonies that are under the immediate Care of the Crown, in a much more eligable Situation: And our sincere Regard for the Memory of our first Proprietary, must make us apprehend for his Children, that if they follow the Advice of *Rehoboam's* Counsellors, they will, like him, absolutely lose at least the Affections of their People. A Loss, which however they affect to dispise, will be found of more consequence to them than they seem at present to be aware of.

All which is humbly submitted to the Correction of the House, by

September 11, 1753.

EVAN MORGAN,	ARTHUR PATTERSON,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,	JOHN WRIGHT,
HUGH ROBERTS,	JOHN ARMSTRONG,
MAHLON KIRKBRIDE,	MOSES STARR,
GEORGE ASHBRIDGE,	JAMES BURNSIDE."

Resolved, N. C. D. That it is the Opinion of this House, that the late Governor, who was, we presume, as much bound by the additional Instruction to Colonel *Thomas* in 1740, as our present Governor is or can be, has clearly admitted in his Reasonings with our last Assembly, "that it was an Absurity too glaring to suppose that any Government would voluntarily tie up the Hands of its Subjects from serving it, by such Means as they are able, in Cases of great Emergency;" and that Colonel *Thomas*, in passing the Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use in the Year 1746, by extending the Excise Act for Ten Years, was so far from acting contrary to the Instruction he had received from the Lords Justices in 1740, that "the very contrary was evident;" and that the said Instruction was not binding upon him from passing a Bill, in Cases of Emergency, of the same Tenor with our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use which our Governor has now been pleased to refuse his Assent to.

Resolved, N. C. D. That it is the Opinion of this House, that the Governor is undoubtedly bound by Proprietary Instructions; and that they may be, and we believe they really are, or some of them are, such as, independent of the Royal Instruction, limit or restrain him from passing Acts, which by the Royal and Provincial Charters, we have an undoubted Right to offer, and by which he has, or ought to have, full Powers to give his Assent to, as Governor of this Province.

Resolved, N. C. D. That it is the Opinion of this House, that these Proprietary Instructions, or some one or more of them, is, or are, the principal, if not the sole, Obstruction to the Passing our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, in this Time of imminent Danger to the *British* Interest in *North-America.*

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, William Callender, Mahlon Kirkbride, George Ashbridge, Arthur Patterson, Peter Worral, John Smith, David M'Connaughy, Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's two last Messages, and report the same to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *William Cuzzins*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner is informed that this House is now about to appoint an Officer to measure all the Plank, Lumber, *&c.* exported from this Province, and the Petitioner, being well versed in Mensuration, therefore prays to be appointed to the said Office.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's two last Messages, reported the same to the House; and it was read by Order, considered, and ordered to be again read in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Draught of an Answer to the Governor's two last Messages was again read, and considered, agreed to with some Amendments, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House three Papers, entitled as follows, *viz.*

1. *A Letter to the Governor from* George Croghan; *dated* December 23, 1754.

2. *A Letter to the Secretary from* George Croghan; *dated* December 5, 1754.

3. *A Letter to the Secretary from* John Harris; *dated* Paxton December 30, 1754.

The foregoing Letters were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Answer to the Governor's two last Messages being transcribed, was again read and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WHEN we review the Conduct of our Predecessors in the same important Stations we have now the Honour to bear, and their repeated Struggles for continuing to us the invalable Blessings we enjoy under our Charters; when we consider their constant Acknowledgements of the Royal Clemency and Goodness in granting them to us; their Gratitude to our worthy Founder and Proprietary for confirming those Privileges, and the Success which has attended their honest Endeavours; it animates us, under our most gracious King, of whose paternal Regard and Tenderness over us we have now the most engaging Instances, to pursue faithfully the Path they have trod before us, in which we hope, and have no Reason to doubt, the Issue of so just a Cause, whenever it shall come before his Majesty, or be made the Subject of a Parliamentary Enquiry. And the Governor surely will likewise consider how he may stand acquitted under such Enquiries, when the Reason of his present Conduct shall be examined into before such impartial Judges.

Upon considering the Governor's Promise, that he would lay before us his Proprietary Instructions, so far as they regarded our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, "whenever the Public Service should require it;" and yet on our Address, which we apprehend we have an undoubted Right to, that he would now lay them before us, "as a Time when the Public Service requires it in a particular Manner," his absolute Refusal of granting this our reasonable Request; and likewise upon re-considering the Representation of the Assembly to our Proprietaries in 1751, and their Answer, together with the other Minutes and Papers relating thereto, as well as the several Arguments of the last Assembly with our late Governor, when a Bill of the same Tenor of our present Bill lay before him, we have come to the following unanimous Resolutions, *viz.*

That it is the Opinion of this House, that the late Governor, who was, we presume, as much bound by the additional Instruction to Colonel *Thomas*, in 1740, as our present Governor is or can be, has clearly admitted, in his Reasonings with our last Assembly, "that it was an Absurdity too glaring, to suppose that any Government would voluntarily tie up the Hands of its Subjects from serving it by such Means as they are able in Cases of great Emergency;" and that Colonel *Thomas*, in passing the Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, in the Year 1746, by extending the Excise Act for Ten Years, was so far from acting contrary to the Instruction he had received from the Lords Justice in 1740, that "the very contrary was evident; and that the said

Instruction was not binding upon him from passing a Bill in Cases of great Emergency, of the same Tenor with the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's use, which our Governor has now been pleased to refuse his Assent to.

That it is the Opinion of this House, that the Governor is undoubtedly bound by Proprietary Instructions; and that they may be, and we believe they really are, or some of them are, such as independant of the Royal Instruction, limit or restrain him from passing Acts, which, by the Royal and Provincial Charters, we have an undoubted Right to offer, and by which he has, or ought to have, full Powers to give his Assent to, as Governor of this Province.

That it is the Opinion of this House, that these Proprietary Instructions, or some one or more of them, is, or are, the principal, if not the sole Obstruction to the Passing our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, in this Time of imminent Danger to the *British* Interest in *North-America.*

May it please the Governor,

These Resolutions, which are forced from us, we have entered into with the utmost Reluctancy; and in Support of them, or any other part of our present Conduct, we conceive it our indispensible Duty to conduct ourselves precisely within the Bounds of Sincerity and sober Reason, and to avoid every Thing that is not in our Opinion necessary to our own just Vindication.

As the Substance of these Resolves has already been laid before the Governor, it has been in his Power to exonerate those Proprietary Instructions from any Misapprehension of ours, and it is in his Power still to do it, by laying them before us, as our former Governors have done in like Cases; and whenever he shall be pleased to do so, it will give us great Pleasure to retract the Whole, or any Part of those Resolves. But till then, we presume the Governor must allow we have good Reason to say, that we are under a Necessity of making our humble Application to the Crown in Support of our Civil and Religious Liberties. For if such Proprietary Instructions had not interfered, it was most natural, and would have been most agreeable to us, and accordingly, if the Case could admit it, we should have requested the Governor's Assistance and Concurrence in an Address to our Proprietaries, in Support of our Charter, as it regarded the Royal Instructions only. But under our present Circumstances we apprehend these Proprietary Instructions are the principal, if not the sole Reason that hinders the Passing our Bill, by which we were in Hopes of demonstrating our Readiness and Chearfulness in answering all the reasonable Expectations of the Crown from his most loving and loyal Subjects of this Province. And therefore it is with extreme Concern we find our Governor, who is, or ought to be, set over us for our Protection, endeavouring to represent us in his Message, of the Thirtieth of *December* last, in a Light we detest and abhor.

The Governor is but in the Beginning of his Administration, and if, when he received the Proprietaries Commission, he was "in a great Measure, a Stranger to our Constitution," we apprehend he still continues a Stranger not only to our Constitution, but to the Inhabitants, if he does not certainly know, that the King has not a more loyal People among all his Subjects, than the Inhabitants are, and have ever been since the first Settlement of this Province; nevertheless, they are convinced they ought not to be governed by Proprietary Instructions in Opposition to their Charter, which is, in our Opinion, the Foundation and Sanction of our Civil and Religious Liberties; and especially if these instructions must be secreted from them, and by that Means the whole Country left without any known Rule of their Conduct. And it surprizes us extremely, that a Request of this House, respectfully addressed to the Governor, that he would be pleased to lay before us those Instructions, or such Part of them as might relate to the immediate Service of the Crown, and to the Preservation of this his Majesty's Colony, in order that we might examine how far they interfered with that Allegiance the Proprietaries themselves, and all of us, owe to the Crown, or with the Privileges granted by our Charters, should be represented by our Governor as an Act that might have a Tendency to alienate the Affections of the People of this Province from his Majesty's Person and Government, and thereby greatly obstruct the Measures he is taking, at a vast Expence, for the Preservation and Protection of his Subjects upon this Continent." That thus contending for the Rights granted us by the Royal Charter, which is the known Rule of our Conduct, should have a Tendency of that Kind, under a King, who has been graciously pleased to declare, "That nothing in this World can give him so much Pleasure as to see his Subjects a flourishing and happy People," is so foreign from our Thoughts, and we trust will be so foreign to every impartial Construction, that we may safely leave it without any further Remarks of our own. But if it should have a Tendency to alienate the Affections of the People from being bound by private Proprietary Instructions, the Blame is not with us, who have never been consulted upon them; and if we had been consulted, should have thought ourselves obliged to declare, that we have a great Dislike to Proprietary Instructions, and that so far as they are against the Prerogatives of the Crown, or an Infringement of our Charter, they are illegal, and "void in themselves."

That "all Governors have constantly had Proprietary Instructions, from the first Settlement of this Province," we neither know, nor do we think it much concerns us, provided they relate to the Proprietary Property only: But this we do know, that occasionally as they have interfered with the Passing of Acts, they have been repeatedly and unanimously resolved by the Council and Representatives of this Province, "void in themselves," and "an infringement upon the Privileges granted by Charter to the People of this Province." And our former Governor had declared, upon the Journals of our House, in a Letter to the Proprietary Family themselves:

1. That some of the Instructions given to him conclude absurdly, and therefore are impracticable,

2. That they are a positive Breach of the Charter of Privileges to the People. And,

3. That they are inconsistent with the legal Prerogative of the Crown settled by Act of Parliament.

And yet if such Instructions as these must be binding in so high a Degree, as they appear to have been upon Colonel *Thomas*, when, in Support of his eighth Instruction laid before the Assembly in 1738, he declared, "that his Hands were tied up by that Instruction, and no Consideration in Life should induce him to break it;" what must become of the Royal Prerogative, or the Rights of the People?

The Governor is pleased to say, "It is certainly true, that he has Proprietary Instructions, as he is informed all Governors, from the first Settlement of the Province, have constantly had." Yet as Sir *William Keith* informs us, "that he was obliged in the Penalty of *One Thousand Pounds Sterling*, for Reasons best known to those who took such Precautions as were never used before": we may presume, whatever Instructions had been given to former Governors, he was the First who entered into penal Bonds for the true Performance of them. Here we think we may safely leave the Consideration of Proprietary Instructions for the present, and we hope what we have said on this Head will answer all the Objections arising from the Royal Instruction to Colonel *Thomas*, until the Governor may be pleased to convince us, that the Proprietary Instructions are not the principal or sole Obstruction to Passing of our Bill.

In Answer to that Part of the Proprietary Instructions, the Governor has so chearfully laid before us, which we acknowledge to be an Act of Justice, for which we return him our Thanks, we beg Leave to say, that as it requires Money to be levied upon the People for providing Arms and Stores of War, and building Magazines, we are of Opinion it may be Time enough to deliberate upon it, when we are informed how far he is at Liberty by his Instructions to pass our Bills; and whether himself, or the Representatives of the People, are the proper Judges of the Manner of raising such Monies. And when these our Civil and Religious Rights are secured, we cannot doubt all will rise up as One Man in Behalf of our King, our Country and our Charters, according to our several Stations and Abilities.

We are really at a Loss what to think of the Governor's Computation, either of our annual Revenues, or the Money due to the Province, which he is pleased to say, is between *Fourteen* and *Fifteen Thousand Pounds*, besides an Income of *Seven Thousand Pounds per Annum.* This appears so extremely inaccurate, that we cannot imagine how that Computation should arise; for on a bare Inspection of our last Year's Accounts, there remained then outstanding, on all the Mortgages, no more than *Eight Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Pounds, Twelve Shillings* and *Three-pence*, and a Balance in the Trustees hands of *One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-five Pounds, Three Shillings* and *Five-pence* and in the Hands of the Provincial Treasurer, *Four Hundred Sixty-two Pounds, Ten Shillings* and *Ten-pence Three Farthings;* in the whole, *Ten Thousand One Hundred Seventy-eight Pounds Six Shillings* and *Six-pence Three Farthings:* Out of which Sum, One Year's Interest ought to be deducted by the legal Allowance, which reduces the Whole to about *Seven Thousand Pounds*, at that Settlement. Since which, it cannot be unknown to the Governor, what very large Sums we have paid for the Support of Government, and for *Indian* and other Expences, by which Means, our Treasury and Loan-Office are almost quite exhausted. But admitting the Governor's Computation in all its Extent, if *Twenty Thousand Pounds*, as he is pleased to inform us, will go but a very little Way to raise and maintain such Troops as he may think necessary, and without which we had better, in his Opinion, do nothing at all, how can the inconsiderable Sum we have any Power over, answer his Demands, though we should ruin the Persons now outstanding in our Loan-Office, by the immediate Sale of their Lands? We are unwiling to make any further Remarks on this Head, which has, we find, been heretofore insisted upon by our late Governor, but carries with it, as we conceive, such Appearances of Severity, without answering any good Purpose, that we think it our indispensible Duty to oppose it, as far as in Justice we may; and now more especially, when we have offered a Bill which would raise a generous Sum of Money immediately, for the Use of the Crown, in a Manner that would be most easy and most agreeable to us all. Whilst we are upon this Article, as the Governor must be in a great Measure a Stranger to our Accounts, we take the Liberty to remark, that the Proprietary Patents make, as we are informed by the Trustees, near one Half of the Mortgages now outstanding. These, after paying for their Lands out of the Money borrowed from the Province, are to improve them with the Remainder, if any; and as they must have Shelter for themselves at least, however mean, and some Land cleared for their Subsistance, it necessarily puts them in Arrears, let them be ever so honest and industrious; whilst the Purchases of such their Lands are constantly complied with on granting the Patents, the Bulk of which, we presume, may have been remitted to *Great-Britain*, and makes a very sensible Diminution of the Silver and Gold current among us: So that all Ranks of People, however flourishing the Governor may be pleased to represent us, complain justly for Want of a due Medium to carry on our Trade: But as this Enquiry is not immediately before us, we shall at present leave it, and proceed to inform the Governor yet farther, that his Computation of our annual Income is also too high; for as our Excise, *communibus Annis*, yields about *Three Thousand Pounds* (out of which *Five Hundred Pounds* is yearly applied towards sinking the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, heretofore granted to the King's Use) the Interest payable into the Loan-Office is much about the same Sum: And his Error in the last Article, we presume, might arise upon a Supposal that our whole Principal Sum of *Eighty Thousand Pounds* was always yielding an Interest; but this has ever been found impracticable, as considerable Sums must be continually changing Hands, by Virtue of our re-emitting Acts. Besides which, the Province has, out of that Principal Sum, lent considerable Parts of it, without yielding any Interest at all; and particularly a Debt from the City of *Philadelphia*, still due upon the first and second *Thirty Thousand Pounds* Acts, long since expired. And until that is in our Hands, it would be unjust to compute an Interest arising from it, or upbraid us with it, as Money which ought to have been in our Hands by Law, whilst some may think we have no Power to sue for it by the Laws in being.

The Governor is pleased to say, "that he cannot consent to pass our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, it being a direct Breach of a Royal Instruction, intended to enforce an Act of Parliament of the Sixth of Queen ANNE, which we know has been shamefully slighted and disregarded in this and the neighboring Provinces."—The neighboring Provinces must answer for themselves; but so far as regards this Colony, we find, by the Votes of the House, that whilst Colonel *Thomas* had the Act before him, for emitting and re-emitting *Eighty Thousand Pounds* this very Act of the Sixth of Queen ANNE was considered, debated, and so fully explained, that although Exchange was then higher than at this Time, he (who was undoubedly under the same Oaths and Bonds to observe the Acts of Trade with our present Governor) after mature Deliberation, gave his Assent to that Act on the Nineteenth of *May*, 1739; which, after having been recommended by the Merchants in *England* trading to this Province, as "an Act not only reasonable, but likewise necessary for carrying on the Commerce of this Country," the King was pleased to confirm it in a full Council on the Twelfth Day of May following. What then the Governor does or can mean by saying, we know that this Province has shamefully slighted a Royal Instruction, intended to enforce an Act of the Sixth of Queen ANNE, is what we are entirely at a loss to imagine; neither can we conceive any good Reason, why our Governor should chuse to call our Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, a Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds*, without any further Explanation, though that Bill had been repeatedly under his Consideration. It would be, perhaps, too unkind to suppose, as the Bill itself, and the Contents of it, would in all Probability be unknown to our Superiors, further than the Grant to the Crown, he could have the least Intention to misrepresent the Purport of it, and for this Reason we leave it entirely to his own Reflection. The Title of that Bill is, *An Act for striking* Forty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and for granting* Twenty Thousand Pounds *thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of torn and ragged Bills now current in this Province;* and the Governor well knows, it adds no more to our Paper Currency than the very *Twenty Thousand Pounds* granted the King, and even that struck for no other Reason than to answer the immediate Call of the Crown, and to make the Grant effectual.

The Governor has been pleased repeatedly to inform us, "That the *French* have already possessed themselves of great Part of this Province, and that we are the very Province invaded," and yet we find the *French* Forts, and their other Acquisitions, on the *Ohio*, are constantly considered, and called in *Great-Britain* an Invasion upon his Majesty's Territory of *Virginia*. And we have now before us a Map, which we have good Reason to believe was made from Intelligences and Draughts, supplied by the Board of Trade, and by our Proprietaries; by which Map it appears that every Fort built by the *French*, either on *Buffalo* River, or on the *Ohio*, are beyond the Western Boundaries of *Pennsylvania;* and we presume the King may have granted large Tracts of Land to the Eastward of the Fort the *French* have built at the Forks of *Mohongahela:* But whether this Map prove true or otherwise, or whether our Western Boundaries are rightly adjusted by it, cannot immediately concern us, till they are undoubtedly ascertained and agreed to; for till then the Earl of *Holdernesse*, by his Letter of the Twenty-eighth of *August*, 1753, to which Sir *Thomas Robinson's* two Letters expressly refer, has so minutely set down, and so carefully guarded the Terms upon which each Colony is to act in Regard to the *French* Encroachments, that we cannot think it would be prudent, or answer any good Purpose, to contravene them, whilst the Crowns of *Great-Britain* and *France* continue in Amity with each other; and especially as our King has now graciously interposed, and is certainly the most proper judge of the Limits of his own Dominions in *America*. And therefore we think the Governor and ourselves may safely leave it under that Direction, without engaging ourselves in any Dispute, which can or may arise concerning the Rights of the Crown, or the Property our Proprietaries may claim in those Lands.

The Intelligence the Governor has lately received and laid before us, upon the Hearsay of One, and on the Deposition of another *French* Deserter, is unexpected, and indeed wonderful. It really appears so to us, that nigh Six Thousand of the best Troops of *France* should arrive, in Six Men of War, in the River St. *Lawrence*, and after ascending that River and the Lakes, should be now actually at the Lower Fort upon the *Ohio;* that they should be able to carry with them a sufficient Quantity of Provisions and other Necessaries for so large a Body of Forces, to sustain and accommodate them through the Winter in that uncultivated Country, and all this without the least Account of their Embarkation in *Europe*, and without the least Intelligence of their Passage or Arrival at the Place of their Destination, from any of the other Colonies, or from our own Back Settlements, from whence the Governor has been pleased to lay before us very late Letters and Accounts. It is true, these Depositions are made in a very critical Juncture, but they cannot have the same Force as they ought to carry with them, had the same Accounts been transmitted to us from *Oswego*, near which they must necessarily have passed, and from whence we received very minute Accounts of the Passage of the *French* Forces, who first laid the Foundations of their Strength upon the *Ohio*. Nevertheless, as we have no Inclination nor any Interest in discrediting the Report, or diminishing the Numbers of the *French* there, which we acknowledge is abundantly too great, and has justly alarmed the *British* Nation, we shall leave the Arrival of these Forces, as well as Quality of them, upon their own Evidence.

We have now extended our Remarks upon the Governor's Messages to a much greater Length than we could have wished or desired, especially as by those Messages we find he is determined not to give his Assent to our Bill; and yet we entreat his Patience a little longer, to remark upon the Royal Instruction to Colonel *Thomas*, in 1740, and that to Sir *William Keith*, in 1723. In respect to this last, our late Governor was pleased to inform us, "that he had caused the Minutes of Council, and all the Papers in that Office, to be very carefully inspected, without being able to discover the least Footsteps of that, or any other Instruction to the like Purpose;" which appears truly surprizing to us, who had Reason to suppose that Sir *William Keith's* Message to the Assembly, on the Seventh of *May*, 1724, ought to appear upon the Minutes of Council; in which he says, "Herewith I send you the Perusal of an original Instruction, which I have received from the Crown, in Relation to the Passing of private Acts of Assembly in this Province, by which I conceive is meant Acts relating to Privileges or Advantages granted to particular Persons, and not to the Public in general; and I judge it will be proper for you to cause a Copy of it to be entered upon your Journals, for your better Information in Cases of that Nature." And accordingly it is entered upon our Minutes of that Date. Now although we have Reason to think, from what has been remarked by our former Assemblies, that the

Instruction to Colonel *Thomas*, in 1740, has, in a great Measure, if not wholly, answered all the Purposes for which it was issued; and because the same House of Commons, who had before addressed the Crown, though requested by the Board of Trade, that they would again interfere, that his Majesty would repeat his Orders to his Governors of Plantations for that Purpose, have never done it, that we can learn; and because now, through a Succession of two Governors, who have since received the Royal Approbation, upon their Appointment to the Government of this Province, no other or further Instructions have been given to either of them, but the Instruction of 1723, equally unlimited by Time, and equally binding on the Commander in Chief for the Time being, remains in its full Force, without any Act of Parliament, or any other Act of Government that we know of, either to abate its Operation, or to supply the End of it. Nevertheless, we are under a Necessity of informing the Governor, though with great Reluctance, that in the Year 1735, Governor *Gordon* passed an Act for vesting more effectually certain Lands in *George McCall*, in direct Contradition to that Instruction, without the least Mention of a suspending Clause.

As we have Reason to believe the Assembly was then acquainted with that Instruction, and as the Bill particularly related to our Honourable Proprietaries, our last Assembly, notwithstanding the indiscret Call upon them, contented themselves, from the Motives of Prudence and Moderation, with barely pointing out this Transaction, in Hopes our honourable Proprietaries would see themselves at least equally concerned with the Representatives of the People both in Fact and Right, and thereby might be induced to join cordially with the People of this Province, in vindicating our Charter from the continual Infraction of such Instructions; which, if they must operate in the Manner the Governor is pleased to contend for, and our Proprietary Instructions must be binding upon us also, the Rights derived to us by the Royal Charter is a Name only, whilst the very Essence of it is effectually destroyed: Under the Sanction of which Charter, a sober industrious People, without any Charge to the Crown or the Proprietary, first settled this Wilderness, and by their Frugality, and the Equity of their Laws, laid the Foundation of a flourishing Colony, which already, within the ordinary Life of a Man, has made a considerable Addition to the Dominions of the Crown, by an Increase of dutiful and loyal Subjects, and bears no mean Rank in contributing to the Wealth and Trade of our Mother Country.

Whether the above Act for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, or the Act for vesting Lands in *George McCall*, were ever sent Home for the Royal Approbation, very little concerns us, as we presume the Transmitting our Acts is the immediate Duty of our Proprietaries, or their Lieutenants, in Pursuance of the Royal Charter, which we look upon as the enterior solemn Royal Instruction, for the Rule of their Conduct, as well as of our own.

Upon the Whole, from what we have said, we presume it evidently appears, that Proprietary Instructions and Restrictions upon their Governors, as they have occasionally been made a Part of the Public Records at different Times, have been judged and resolved by our Governor. Council, and the Representatives of the People, either

1. Inconsistent with the legal Prerogative of the Crown settled by Act of Parliament.
2. Or a positive Breach of the Charter of Privileges to the People.
3. Or absurd in their Conclusions, and therefore impracticable.
4. Or void in themselves.—— Therefore,

Whenever the Governor shall be pleased to lay his Proprietary Instructions before us for our Examination, and if then they should appear to be of the same Kind as heretofore, his good Judgment should lead him to conclude, that such "Considerations in Life," as our Allegiance to the Crown, or the immediate Safety of the Colony, *&c.* are sufficient Inducements for him to disobey them, notwithstanding any Penal Bonds to the contrary, we shall cheerfully continue to grant such further Sums of Money for the King's Use, as the Circumstances of the Country may bear, and in a Manner we judge least burthensome to the Inhabitants of this Province."

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *James Pemberton* wait upon the Governor with the same, and acquaint him, that the House having near gone through the Business before them, desire to know when they may expect his Result upon the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had referred the Bill relating to the Importation of *Germans*, &c. to a Committee of the Council, who now had it under their Consideration; and that he should acquaint the House with his Result upon said Bill as soon as conveniently he could.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Accounts of the late Treasurer, exhibited by the Executors, and find that there is a Balance of *Twenty-six Pounds Two Shillings* and *Nine-pence Three Farthings*, due from the Estate of the said Treasurer to the Province.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Ten Pounds* be now allowed to *Anthony Benezet*, in Consideration of the Care and Trouble he has had in providing for the *French* Deserters, who have for some Time past arrived in this City.

Ordered, That the Executors of the late Treasurer do pay the Balance due from his Estate into the Hands of *Anthony Benezet; Ten Pounds* whereof to be kept by the said *Benezet* in Pursuance of the foregoing Resolve, and the Remainder to lie in his Hands for the further Maintenance of such Deserters as are already in this City, or that may hereafter arrive.

The Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson* to the Governor, of the Twenty-sixth of *October* last, being again read, it was observed by the House, that the following Points were therein particularly recommended to the Governor's Care, *viz.*

> That he should carefully provide a sufficient Quantity of fresh Victuals, at the Expence of this Government, to be ready for the Use of his Majesty's Troops at their Arrival; that he should likewise furnish the Officers, who may have Occasion to go from Place to Place, with all Necessaries for traveling by Land, in case there are no Means of going by Sea; and that he should use his utmost Dilligence and Authority, in procuring an exact Observance of such Orders, as shall be issued, from Time to Time, by the Commander in Chief, for quartering the Troops, impressing Carriages, and providing all Necessaries for such Forces as shall arrive, or be raised, within this Government.
>
> That with regard to such other Articles, which are of a more general Concern, it is the King's Pleasure, that he will use his utmost Endeavours to induce the Assembly of this Province, to raise, forthwith, as large a Sum as

can be afforded, as their Contribution to a common Fund, to be employed, provisionally, for the general Service of *North-America.*

Whereupon it was considered, that this House, in Obedience to the Royal Orders, signified by the Earl of *Holdernesse's* Letter of the Twenty-eighth of *August*, 1753, and by Sir *Thomas Robinson's* several Letters of the Fifth of *July*, and the Twenty-sixth of *October* last, had presented to the Governor a Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to which he was pleased to refuse his Assent; influenced thereto, as this House unanimously presume, principally, if not solely, by Instructions from the Proprietaries. And although the House are thereby hindered from making Provision for all the Purposes of the said Royal Orders, in the Manner they could desire (the Treasury being now quite exhausted by *Indian* and other heavy Expences, and large Sums paid out of the Loan-Office for Orders actually and usually drawn upon the Treasury, insomuch that there is scarcely a Balance of *Five Hundred Pounds* now remaining in the Trustees Hands) yet, nevertheless, they are desirous to comply with the Expectations of the Crown, as far as, their present Circumstances considered, they are able. It is, therefore,

Resolved, N. C. D. That *Isaac Norris*, Esq; Speaker, and *Evan Morgan, Joseph Fox, James Pemberton, James Wright, Joseph Armstrong* and *John Smith*, Gentlemen, Members of this House, be, and they are hereby nominated and impowered to take up and borrow, on the Credit of this House, any Sum not exceeding *Five Thousand Pounds*, lawful Money of this Province; to be by them laid out for purchasing fresh Victuals, and such other Necessaries as they, or a Majority of them, shall think expedient, for the Use of the King's Troops at their Arrival: For all which Money, borrowed as aforesaid, they, the above-named Gentlemen or any four of them, shall give a Certificate or Certificates, as the Case may require, under their Hands, to the Person or Persons lending the same, certifying that such Money was taken up and borrowed for the King's Use, in the Manner, and for the Purposes directed by this Resolve. And this House will repay, or take effectual Care to secure the Re-payment of all the every Sum or Sums of Money, so as aforesaid borrowed, with Interest, if necessary.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from *Thomas Jervis*, of the City of *Philadelphia, for the* Maintenance of *Scarroyady*, two other *Indians*, and their Interpreter, amounting to *Ten Pounds Two Shillings* and *Ten-pence*, was laid before the House, read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Letter to the Secretary from *George Croghan*, containing an Account amounting to *Forty-two Pounds*, paid by him to *Thomas Kenton*, for sundry Goods delivered to the *Shawanese*, as a Present from this Government, was read; and the said *Kenton* attending, was called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to him by the House, and produced a Note of Hand from the said *Croghan*, for the before-mentioned Sum, he was directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That an Order be forthwith drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, for Payment of the same.
Which was accordingly done.

And an Order was likewise drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for the Payment of *William Anderson's* Account.

Upon a Motion made,

Resolved, That a most humble Address be made to the King to testify the Affection and Loyalty of the People of this Province, and to represent the Difficulties we Labour under by Reason of Proprietary Instructions, *&c.*

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *James Pemberton*, *William Calleader*, *Joseph Hamton*, *Jonathan Ingham*, *George Ashbridge*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *Arthur Patterson*, *Calvin Cooper*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Address, pursuant to the said Resolution, and report the same to the House.

Ordered, That *Peter Worral* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, and adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Address to be presented to the King, reported the same to the House, and it was read, considered, and returned to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *James Burnside* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House having almost finished the Business they propose to do at this

Sitting, and being desirous to have the Bill, now with the Governor, passed into a Law before they rise, request that he would as soon as possible let them know his Result thereupon.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should this Afternoon send a Message to the House concerning the Bill now before him.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House two Messages in Writing, which were read, and are as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'HAVING considered your very long Message of the Third Instant, I think it necessary to make some Observations upon it; and though the very great Obscurity, unnecessary repetitions, and unmeaning Paragraphs, in that Performance, may confuse and divert some People here from the true Points in Difference between us, yet I am under no Apprehension but his Majesty and his Ministers will see your Conduct and mine in a true Light.

You certainly do not understand, or do misrepresent, my last Message, or you could never accuse me of making a Promise, that I would lay before you the Proprietary Instructions, "so far as they regarded the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use," when I never so much as told you, that I had any such; or charge me with representing your Application for those Instructions, "as having a Tendency to alienate the Affections of the People from his Majesty's Person and Government;" neither the one or the other having any Foundation, there being nothing in my Messages that, by the most strained Construction, can support what you have said. I thought the Expressions you had taken the Liberty to use, with respect to the Royal Instruction relating to Paper Money, might have a Tendency to alienate the Affections of the People, though never so well disposed; as I very well know how fond they are of that Currency, and how much averse to any Restraints upon that Head. And had I not good Reason to think so, when that Instruction has been represented as destructive of the Liberties of the People, and in the Message, now under my Consideration, is called an Infraction of the Royal Charter? When his Majesty, the Father and Protector of his People, is represented in this Light to the Inhabitants of a Province so remote from his Royal Person, must it not have a Tendency to lessen their Affection? And is not that dangerous at all Times, but more especially so at this Juncture, when his Majesty expects the Assistance of all his Subjects for their own Defence and Security? It is plain, from what you have said relating to that Instruction, that you think yourselves exempt from the Force of Royal Instructions, particularly those relating to Paper Money: What can induce you to think, that the Words of the Royal Charter may be construed in Favour of such Exemption, I will not take upon me to say; but sure I am, that the Crown of *England*, can by no Means divest itself of a Jurisdiction over its Subjects, especially in Matters relating to the Standard and Currency of Money, concerning which it has very large and peculiar Prerogatives, no Part of which are granted by the Royal Charter. You will therefore consider how just your Claims of Independency upon this Head are, and how prudent it will be in you to insist upon them.

'You are pleased to be very angry with your Proprietaries, for no other Reason, that I can find, but their having given me Instructions; and without knowing what those Instructions are, you represent them as destructive of the Liberties and Privileges granted by Charter to the People of this Province. Such a Treatment of that Honourable Family, from whom the Inhabitants of this Province have derived so many Advantages, and who are promoting its Interest upon every Occasion, is not only ungrateful but unjust.

'The Proprietaries are too nearly interested in the Prosperity of this Country to do any Thing to its Prejudice; and I should have imagined, that the People could not now stand in Need of any Proofs of the Proprietary Affection, or suspect them of having any Designs to invade their just Rights or Privileges, which I am confident, to use your own Words, "they detest and abhor."

'Your Resolves relating to the Proprietary Instructions, which you still say are the principal, if not the sole, Obstructions to the Passing the Bill you sent me, are, in my Opinion very extraordinary, as I had told you, that I could not pass that Bill, because it was contrary to the King's Instructions; this Treatment from one Branch of a Legislature to another, may be quite consistent with the Privileges you claim, for any Thing I know, but I must take the Liberty to say, they are not consistent with Decency, Prudence nor the public Good; and however you may disbelieve me in other Things, I beg you will think me sincere when I tell you, that I am determined not to lay the Proprietary Instructions before you at this Time farther than I have already done, notwithstanding any Thing you have said to induce me to it; being sensible, that they are no way necessary, and that you are in a very improper Temper for the Consideration of them, as you have, without knowing what they are, declared them destructive of your Liberties.

'The Proprietary Instructions, as I told you before, are calculated to promote the Happiness and Prosperity of this Province, and have nothing in them inconsistent either with the Prerogatives of the Crown, or the Liberty of the People; and if those Instructions had not been given me, I should, nevertheless, have thought it my Duty to have refused my Assent to the Bill you sent me for emitting Paper Money.

'There are Parts of that Bill that I had very material Objections to, but I waved them, on Account of the pressing Necessity of the Times, not doubting but you would have offered such an One as I could have passed, consistent with the King's Instructions, as I then imagined you really intended to grant Supplies for the Safety and Defence of the Province, and thought we should agree upon the Terms of raising Money for that Purpose: but your Behaviour since that Time has convinced me, and I am persuaded will convince my Superiors, that you never had any Intentions of putting this Province into a Posture of Defence, or of acting vigorously against the French upon your Borders.

'As you take upon you to insinuate, that I am restrained, by Proprietary Instructions, from passing Bills for the Defence of the Country, I think it necessary expressly to deny that I am so restrained, and to tell you, that I am ready to pass a Law for putting this Province into a Posture of Defence, by establishing a Militia, and making the Necessary Provisions; and that I will consent to a Law for emitting any Sum in Paper Money that the present Emergency may require; provided Funds are established for sinking the same in Five Years.

'I said, "the Act of the Sixth of Queen ANNE, for ascertaining the Rates of foreign Coins in *America*, was shamefully slighted and disregarded in this Province," and I say so still, notwithstanding any Thing you have urged in your Message to the contrary. It is known to you, and every One, that *Spanish*

Pieces of Eight do now, and for a Number of Years have passed, and been current at *Seven Shillings* and *Six-pence*, when that Act requires, that they should pass for *Six Shillings* only, and that other Coins are current nearly in the same Proportion; from whence it appears, that though you call your Paper Bills Money according to Queen ANNE'S Proclamation, it is really not so, but Twenty-five *per Cent* worse; and as this is directly contrary to the express Words, and true Intent and Meaning of that Act, I was right in saying, "that the Act itself, and the Royal Instruction to enforce it, had been shamefully slighted and disregarded," as neither the one or the other have had the proper Obedience paid to them within this Province.

'I took my Calculation of the Revenue, and the Money you have in Hand, from your own printed Minutes; and I have now re-examined the Accounts, and find, that you have a Revenue of *Seven Thousand Three Hundred* and *Eighty-one Pounds*, arising from the Interest of the Paper Money and the Excise, clear of the *Five Hundred Pounds* a Year, towards sinking *Five Thousand Pounds*, formerly given to the Kings Use.—— And that the Sums due, and which, by the Laws in being, should have been in Hand on the Fifteenth of *September* last, amount to at least *Fourteen Thousand Pounds*. I have ordered the Calculations, from which I have taken those Sums, to be laid before you, that, if I am wrong, you may point out wherein I am so. I did not mean to upbraid you on account of the Sum of *Three Hundred* and *Forty-three Pounds Ten Shillings*, due from the city of *Philadelphia*, the interest whereof, was it to be paid, would only amount to *Seventeen Pounds Three Shillings* and *Six-pence*, which I find to be the only Sum lent out that does not bear an Interest, and is in itself so trifling, that I am surprized to find it mentioned in such a Manner.

'Upon the whole, Gentlemen, I shall have no Reason to fear the Censure of his Majesty, or a *British* Parliament, or be ashamed of the Part I have acted, when the Proceedings of this Session come under their Consideration; since by them it will appear, that I have from Time to Time represented to you the Danger to which this Country stands exposed, the Progress the *French* have made, the Increase of their Numbers, and every Thing else that might induce you to act with Vigour; that I have laid his Majesty's Commands before you, and repeatedly called upon you to grant the Supplies expected from us by the Crown, and to put the Province into a Posture of Defence, and to avoid every Thing that might admit of Dispute.

'And from your several Messages it will fully appear, that instead of doing what the Safety of your Country, and his Majesty's Service required, you have industriously engaged in a Contest about the Force of a Royal Instruction relating to Paper Money; have entered into unseasonable Resolutions with regard to Proprietary Instructions, without knowing what they are; and because I do not communicate to you what you have no Right to demand, you are pleased to make that an Excuse for not putting this Province into a Posture of Defence, and chuse to leave this rich and plentiful Country, situated in the Center of his Majesty's Dominions, naked and open to the Attacks of the *French*, without a Militia, or any one Thing necessary for its Security. It will also appear, that at this critical Juncture, when it is the Duty of every Man to exert himself to the utmost of his Abilities, you proposed only *Twenty Thousand Pounds* this Currency, which is not *Two-pence* in the Pound, upon the just and real Value of Estates in this Province; and this you call a generous Sum, though you must be sensible, it is very insufficient to answer the present Exigency; and even this you refuse to give upon any Terms, but such as are directly contrary to a Royal Instruction, which you know is binding upon me, though there are other Ways of raising Money, not liable to that Objection, and though I offered to consent to a Law for emitting any Sum in Paper Money, the present Emergency might require, provided Funds were established for sinking the same in Five Years.

You will give me Leave to observe, that one Act of Duty and Loyalty to the Crown is worth a Thousand Expressions of that Sort, where a proper Behaviour is wanting; and you will therefore consider how far your Words and Actions agree, and in what Light your Conduct will appear to his Majesty, and his Ministers, who will enquire what you have done upon the present important Occasion, not what you have said.

January 7, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The CALCULATION *referred to in the foregoing Message. Collected from the First of June*, 1752, *to* 1753, *by the following Collectors of Excise*, viz.

BY *Joseph Redman*, in Philadelphia County, ... £2000 12 8

Sundry Retailers, at *Three Pounds per Annum*, ...	203 5 0	
A Moiety of Fines, ...	20 15 0	
	£2224 12 8	
Deduct *Five per Cent*, for receiving, ...	111 4 7½	
		£2113 8 0½
By *John Woolston*, in *Bucks* County, ...	£283 5 0	
Sundry Retailers, ...	9 0 0	
	£292 5 0	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*, for receiving, ...	29 4 6	
		£263 0 6
	Carried over	£2376 8 6½
	Brought over	£2376 8 6½
By *Jeremiah Starr*, in *Chester* County, ...	£427 16 0	
Sundry Retailers, ...	7 10 0	
	£435 6 0	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*, ...	43 10 7	
		£391 15 5
By *Arthur Patterson*, in *Lancaster* County, ...	£223 5 1	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*, ...	22 6 7	
		£200 18 6
By *David M'Connaughy*, in *York* County, ...	£60 18 4	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*, ...	6 1 10	
		£54 16 6
By *James Lindsay*, in *Cumberland* County, ...	£55 0 4	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*, ...	5 10 0	
		£49 10 4
By *John Hughes*, in *Berks*, ..	£404 1 2	
Moiety of Fines, ...	5 0 0	
	£409 1 2	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*, ...	40 18 1	
		£368 3 1

By *Daniel Gray*, in *Northampton*,	£86 7 0	
Deduct *Ten per Cent*,	8 12 8½	
		£77 14 3½

Amount of the Excise from *June* 1, 1752, to *June* 1, 1753,		£3,519 6 8
Income of the Loan-Office, Collected from last Year's Account, *viz.*		
Principal Sums of Quotas, not become due,	£49,582 13 4	
Quotas outstanding, and now due,	19,552 9 2	
One Hundred and Two Mortgages, taken on the seventh Re-emission of the second 80,000 £ Act,	6,601 10 0	
Forty-one Mortgages, taken on the 8th Re-emission of said Act,	3,038 0 0	
Outstanding Interest on all the Mortgages, for which broken Interest is paid,	8,460 12 3	
	£87,235 4 9	
Interest on £87,235 4 9, at 5 *per Cent*,		£4,361 15 2
		£7,881 1 10
Deduct what is to be sunk yearly out of the 5,000 £ granted for the King's Use,		500 0 0
The net Produce of the Excise, and Interest Money, *per Annum*,		£7,381 1 10

N. B. The Excise is calculated for the Year 1753, none but one of the Collectors having settled for 1754, and therefore the Amount of that Year could not be estimated.

An Account of public Money that should have been in Hand the 15th of *September* last, by the Laws now in being, *viz.*

Outstanding Interest on all the Mortgages,	£8,460 12 3
Cash in the Hands of the Trustees,	1,255 3 5

Cash in the Hands of the Treasurer, ...	462	10	10
If the Mortgage Deeds were carefully examined, there would be, without all Doubt 6,000 £ due for broken Interest upon all the Outstandings; however, to be rather under than over, they are put down at	4,000	0	0
	£14,178	6	6

GENTLEMEN,

'YOUR Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, *&c.* I referred to the Consideration of such of the Members of the Council as were Members of the Corporation, who have made sundry Observations upon it which they have reported to me; and as the Bill is intended to preserve the Health of this City and Province, I shall give it all the Attention in my Power, and make such Alterations in it as may best answer the End proposed, without laying too great Restraints upon Trade.

It would have been very agreeable to me to have been able to have gone through it, and send it you down now; but I find myself too much engaged, by Correspondences on his Majesty's Service, to finish it at present, and must herefore detain it, till I can give it the Attention a Bill of such Importance requires.

January 7, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Draught of an Address to the King being again read, and considered, was, with some few Amendments, unanimously agreed to, and two ingrossed Copies ordered to be made thereof.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's two Messages of Yesterday, were again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *James Pemberton*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *Calvin Cooper*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare Draughts of Answers to the same, and report them to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Draught of an Answer to one of the Governor's last Messages was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the said Message being accordingly transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

AS we consider our Bill for preventing the Importation of *Germans* or other Passengers, &c. to be of the utmost Importance to the Health and Lives of the Inhabitants of this Province, in order to clear ourselves from the Mischiefs which may ensue from the Postponing that Bill, we again earnestly solicit the Governor for his Assent to it at this Time.

The Bill itself was calculated to lay Restraints upon the Trade carried on by the Importers of such Passengers, &c. and we have, in all our Considerations, upon it, endeavoured to make it answer those Purposes, without interfering with the other Branches of our Commerce, not subject to the same fatal Consequences; and if the Governor shall think fit to amend the Bill to answer these Ends, it will receive all the Dispatch in our Power, and a cheerful Concurrence on our Part."

The foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Thomas Cummings* and *Nathaniel Pennock* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Two engrossed Copies of the Address to the King being prepared, according to Order, were read, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence do transmit the same, by different Conveyances, to our Agents in *Great-Britain*, and direct them to take the proper Measures to have the said Address presented to the King as soon as conveniently may be.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would return an Answer to the House as soon as possible.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor informs the House, that some of the Chiefs of the *Six Nations*, are now in Town, on Proprietary Business; and, as they are Persons of Weight and Influence, he thinks it may be of public Service for the Government to take Notice of them at this critical Juncture; and therefore recommends this Matter to the Consideration of the House."

A Draught of an Answer to the Governor's last Message relating to Proprietary Instructions, *&c.* was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Upon a Motion made,

Resolved, That the Sum of *One Hundred* and *Fifty Pounds Sterling* be now remitted to our Agents in *Great-Britian*, to lie in their Hands for the Service of the Province, and to be accounted for by them hereafter.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Resolved, That this House, as they see no Prospect of their being at present of any further Service to the Province, will this Day adjourn to the Twelfth Day of the Fifth Month, called *May*, next.

The Answer to the Governor's Message of the Seventh Instant, relating to Proprietary Instructions, *&c.* being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE long Absence from our Homes, the great Expence we must necessarily sit at, and the Uneasiness it gives us to be obliged to differ in Sentiments so widely from our Governor, without the least Prospect of Redress here, together with his present Indisposition to treat us with that Decency, we presume, on Reflection, he will acknowledge to be due to the Representatives of the People, will sufficiently excuse us from entering minutely into the Consideration of his last Message; especially as we hope we may safely leave it for the present, and as we have humbly addressed our gracious Sovereign on the Differences now unhappily subsisting between us.

The Governor has expressed his Satisfaction in leaving it to that Issue, and as we have no Doubt of the Justice of our Cause, we must, and do very chearfully, submit to it also; and by this Means, the Parts of his last Message, which immediately concern us at present, are reduced to a narrow Compass.

The Governor is pleased to say, he very well knows how fond the People are of a Paper Currency, and how much averse they are to any Restraints on that Head; but from whence this Knowledge should arise, is hard for us to conjecture. We certainly know the People have not petitioned our House, nor have we offered the Governor any Bill for that Purpose during his Administration, except the Bill for granting Money for the King's Use, and that only, as the best Method we could devise to make that Grant effectual; and we have Reason to believe, on turning to the Minutes of our late Assemblies, that when they did offer such Bills to our former Governor, they not only restrained themselves within a very moderate Sum, arising from minute Calculations of their Trade, but took great Care to preserve it from sinking in its Value, by issuing it on sufficient Securities, and such as have been usual, and, by long Experience, found effectually to answer that End; notwithstanding, the Governor has been pleased to repeat it, "that this Province has shamefully slighted and disregard the Act of the Sixth of Queen ANNE." That Act was considered when Colonel *Thomas* passed our present Paper Money Act, in 1739, and it was undoubtedly known to the Board of Trade when they recommended it to the Crown as a reasonable Act, upon which it obtained the Royal Sanction on the 12th of *May*, 1740. And under these Authorities it is declared, That those Bills of Credit are lawful Money in *America*, according to an Act of Parliament made in the Sixth Year of the late Queen ANNE, for ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins in the Plantations of *America;* and shall be the current Bills of this Province, for the Payment and Discharge of all Manner of Debts, *&c.* as if the same were tendered and paid at the Rates ascertained in the said Act of Parliament, and should be so received by all Persons whatsoever." And as neither our Silver, or Exchange, make at this Time any Alteration in those Bills, except to their Advantage, being both rather lower than at the Passing and Confirmation of that Act, we account ourselves perfectly safe in saying, that we know not what the Governor can mean, by imputing to this Province a shameful Slight and Disregard of the Act of the Sixth of Queen ANNE; and we hope, on Reflection, he will allow it more reasonable for us to depend upon the Royal Decision in our Favour, than blindly to submit ourselves to the Computations of the Governor, in Opposition to it.

We are likewise under a Necessity of differing from him, in the State of the Public Money he has been pleased to send down with his last Message. As we apprehend the Governor himself must be pretty much a Stranger to our Accounts, we take the Liberty to assure him, that whoever made those Computations, has done them without Skill, or a sufficient Knowledge of our Laws; and that we find the Estimates we have already made, are right and just, and, as far as regards the annual Income, agreeable with the Proprietaries Answer to the Address of the Assembly in 1751. And as, by the Laws in being, we had not the Power over more than about *Seven Thousand Pounds* at the last Settlement, even that Sum is now greatly reduced, by the very heavy Charges of Government, borne and discharged by us since that time.

The Governor is pleased to say, "you proposed only *Twenty Thousand Pounds*, this Currency, which is not *Two-pence* in the *Pound*, upon the just and real Value of Estates in this Province; and this you call a generous Sum, though you must be sensible it must be very insufficient to answer the present Exigency." What the Governor may think sufficient, is as much a Mystery to us, as he may apprehend his Proprietary Instructions are; but, we presume, it may be sufficient for all the Purposes in Sir *Thomas Robinson's* last Letter, and as much or more than, we think, can be reasonably expected from us. How the Governor became so suddenly acquainted with the real Value of our Estates, is not easy to conceive; but we know from long Experience, haveing many of us received our Birth in this Province, that the Inhabitants are not generally wealthy or rich, though we believe them to be, in the Main, frugal and industrious, yet it is evident that their Lands are greatly encumbered with their Debts to the Public. From these Considerations, we are obliged to think the Governor's Estimation of our Wealth is undoubtedly too high, unless he includes the Value of the Proprietary Lands; for, by the Report of a Committee of Assembly in *August*, 1752, it appears, that the Taxables of this Province did not exceed Twenty-two Thousand; and the Grant we have offered of *Twenty Thousand Pounds*, from the best Calculations we can make, doth at least amount to five times the Sum that hath ever been raised by a *Two-Penny* Tax through this Province. As we think the Governor cannot be a competent Judge of the real Value of our Estates in this little Time of his Administration, and as we have now submitted our Cause to higher Determination, we conceive ourselves less concerned in his Computations of our Estates, whatever they may be.

The Governor is pleased to inform us, "that the Proprietaries are too nearly interested in the Prosperity of this Country, to do any Thing to its Prejudice, and he should have imagined that the People could not now stand in Need of any Proofs of the Proprietary Affection, or suspect them of having any Designs to invade their just Rights and Privileges, which, he is confident, they detest and abhor." We cannot suppose the Governor would mean they detest and abhor our just Rights and Privileges, and yet we are convinced the Clause in their Commission to him, their Lieutenant, whereby they impower him to act as fully and amply, to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes, as they themselves might or could do, were they personally present, "*You* (our Governor) *following and observing such Orders, Instructions and Directions, as you now have, or hereafter, from Time to Time, shall receive from us, or our Heirs*," is not only repugnant to our just Rights and Privileges, but impracticable, against common Sense, against Law, and void in itself; and yet if the Governor should think his Hands are so tied up by these Instructions, that he is not at Liberty to act for the Public Good, we must conclude they are of dangerous Consequence at all Times, and particularly in this Time of imminent Danger, not only to ourselves, but to the *British* Interest in *North-America*."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter* and *William Smith* wait upon Governor with the same; and acquaint him, that as the House see no Prospect of their being further servicable to the Province at this Time, they incline to adjourn to the Twelfth Day of the *Fifth Month*, called *May*, next, if he hath no Objection thereto.

The House taking into Consideration the verbal Message of the Governor, relating to the *Indians* now in this City;

Resolved, That, as this Province has of late expended very considerable Sums of Money, in making Presents to the *Indians* in our Alliance, Part of whereof those *Indians*, now in this City, received at the late Treaty held at *Albany;* and as the said Indians are now come down on Proprietary Business only, this House do not think it necessary or reasonable that a Provincial Present should be made them at this Time.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would read the said Messages, and if he found it required an Answer, would send one to the House immediately.

The House taking into Consideration the Motion of *Joseph Trotter*, one of the Members of this House, that another Person might be appointed Trustee of the *Province Island* in his Stead.

Resolved, That the Thanks of this House be given, by the Speaker, to *Joseph Trotter*, for his faithful and diligent Discharge of the aforesaid Trust Which was done accordingly.

Resolved, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Charles Jones* be appointed, and they are hereby appointed Trustees of the *Province Island*, in the Room of *Joseph Trotter*, who has now resigned, and of *Edward Warner*, lately deceased.

The Governor, by the Secretary sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

I AM very much surprised at your Proposal to adjourn till *May*, as you have made no Provision for the Defence of the Province, or granted the Supplies expected by the Crown, and recommended by the Secretary of State's Letters: I must therefore object to the proposed Adjournment, while Things remain in this Situation, and hope you will, in Consideration of the Danger to which your Country stands exposed, continue sitting till you have granted the Supplies to the Crown, and effectually provided for the Defence of the People you represent; but if you are determined to rise at this Time without doing any Thing, remember it is your own Act, and all the fatal Consequences that may attend your leaving the Province in this defenceless State, must lie at your Doors.

January 10, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the House taking the foregoing Message into Consideration;

Resolved, N. C. D. That the Governor has been respectfully and repeatedly solicited by this House, to pass a Bill presented to him, for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, which, in our Opinion, would have answered the Expectations of the Crown from this Province, as signified by the Secretary of State's Letters, had the Governor been pleased to have given it his Assent; therefore whatever ill Consequences ensue, from Supplies not having been granted at this critical Juncture, must lie at his Door.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"I have the Governor's Orders to demand a Copy of the Minutes of this Sitting of the House, to be delivered him as soon as possible."

Ordered, That the Minutes of this and the last Sitting of Assembly be printed, with all convenient Speed; and that a Copy thereof be delivered to the Governor when finished.

Resolved, That this House will adhere to their proposed Time of Adjournment.

Then the House accordingly adjourned to the Twelfth Day of the *Fifth Month*, called *May*, next.

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, the House met accordingly.

Benjamin Franklin, returned a Representative for the City of *Philadelphia*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualification by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *James Pemberton* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met in Pursuance of his Writs, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them; and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would send a Message to the House this Morning, with a Copy of the Writs by which the House were summoned.

Sundry Letters from *Richard Patridge*, Esq; one of the Agents of this Province, were laid before the House by the Committee of Correspondence, and read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Copy of one of the Writs by which the House were summoned, also a Message in Writing, together with a Letter from General *Braddock*, referred to therein, which were severally read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"I HAVE the Pleasure to acquaint you, that Major General *Braddock*, who is appointed by his Majesty to command the Forces employed in *North-America*, is arrived in *Virginia;* and as the Season for Action is approaching, I thought it necessary to summon you together, that any Thing the General had to propose, might be considered without Delay; and that the Men, Provisions and Money, expected by his Majesty from this Province, towards carrying into Execution the Measures concerted for the general Services of *America*, might be provided in Time.

Sir *John St. Clair*, Quarter-master General of his Majesty's Forces in *America*, has represented to me the Necessity of having Roads opened from the inhabited Parts of this Province Westward towards the *Ohio*, not only for the March of Troops, but to faciliate the Supply of Provisions of such Forces as may be employed on the Frontiers of this or the neighbouring Government. I have therefore issued a Commission to a Number of Men acquainted with that Country, to reconnoitre and examine the same, and to mark out where such Roads may most conveniently be made, and to make Report to me of their Proceedings, with an Estimate of the Expences that will attend the Opening and Clearing them; and I recommend it to you to make a suitable Provision for this necessary Service.

'It is said, that the large Supply of Provisions that the *French* have received from these Colonies, has enabled them to support the Forces employed in building Forts in his Majesty's Territories. and will enable them, for some Time at least, to maintain the Troops they have drawn together to defend them. And though this Province has been hitherto very little concerned in that Supply, yet as it is necessary to prevent it for the future, I have issued Orders to the Officers of the Customs for that Purpose, and make no Doubt you will join with me in a Law effectually to hinder such an unnatural Trade.

The Eastern Governments, ever active in the Defense of their Country, and in maintaining his Majesty's just Rights and Dominions in *America*, are exerting themselves at this Juncture, and are very desirous that this Province should join in the Operations intended to frustrate the Schemes of the *French*, and to secure these Colonies against their future Encroachments; I therefore hope you will enable me to take such Part in the Measures proposed, as becomes the Honour and Interest of a Province circumstanced as we are.

General *Braddock*, by his Letter of the Twenty-eighth of last Month, which will be laid before you, desires me to establish a Post between *Philadelphia* and *Winchester*, for the forwarding his Dispatches; this he thinks may be of great Importance, during the Operations of the Campaign, and you will be pleased to impower me to comply with his Request.

His Majesty having, by one of his principal Secretaries of State, recommended it to the several Provinces, to establish a common Fund for the Benefit of all the Colonies collectively, General *Braddock* now desires, that the Quotas of the several Provinces, towards that common Fund, may be lodged in the Hands of a Treasurer, who may have Orders to answer his

Demands; as this is intended to expedite Business, and the General is perfectly disinterested, and declares himself willing to give an Account of his Disbursements, I hope you will put it in my Power to return a satisfactory Answer to his Letter in that Particular.

I heartily recommend to you, Vigor, Unanimity and Dispatch in the Matters you will have under your Consideration, that the happy Opportunity the Colonies now have, by Means of his Majesty's paternal Care, and generous Assistance, of securing themselves for ever against the Attempts of the *French*, may not be lost.

March 18, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House, the two following Messages in Writing, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I OBSERVED by the printed Minutes of your Proceedings, that you have inserted at large Sir *Thomas Robinson's* Letters to me of *July* the Fifth and *October* the Twenty-sixth last, without my Knowledge or Consent.

The King's Commands signified by a Secretary of State may be very proper for the Consideration of the different Parts of the Legislature, but are not always to be communicated to the Public; I think it therefore necessary, Gentlemen, to caution you against the like Practice for the future, and expect that no Letters or Papers communicated by me shall be printed without my previous Approbation; and as it may be of dangerous Consequence to publish those Letters, I desire a Stop may be put to the Publication of that Part of your Minutes which contains them.

I have Letters, and other Papers, that relate to his Majesty's Service, which I would willingly communicate to you, but I do not think it safe to do it, till I have proper Assurance from you, that the Contents of them shall remain secret.

March 18, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

GENTLEMEN,

'ON the Tenth of *January* last I demanded by the Secretary, a Copy of the Minutes of your Proceedings, which you promised to send me, but not receiving them, I did, on the Twenty-ninth of the same Month, by Letter to the Speaker, again demand them, and have frequently, by the Secretary, reiterated my Request, but could not obtain a Sight of them till the Twelfth Instant, above two Months after your Rising, and then only a Part of them were sent me in Print, and I have not yet seen the Whole of them.

The keeping your proceedings thus a secret from me I take to be a very unconstitutional and extraordinary Measure, liable to a Construction that I do not chuse at present to put upon it; but only to acquaint you, that I expect you will order your Clerk to attend me every Night with the Minutes of the Day, that I may know what is done and doing in your House, and be able in Time to lay the same before his Majesty and his Ministers, who expect to be regularly informed of the Measures taken by the Legislatutes of the Colonies.

March 18, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the two last Messages being read, and considered;

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Thomas Cummings*, *Calvin Cooper*, *John Smith*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Messages, agreeable to the Sentiments of the House, thereupon, and report the same to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's two last Messages, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the said Message being accordingly transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

We have considered the two last Messages sent down by the Governor to the House, and beg Leave to say, that we are humbly of Opinion. Letters from the Secretary of State, laid before the House by the Governor, and containing the Commands of the Crown, ought generally to be inserted in the Minutes of Assembly; as such Letters are the Foundation of the Proceedings of the House, and may be necessary for their Justification.

Sir *Thomas Robinson's* Letters of *July* 5, and *October* 26, were sent down to the House without the least Caution to keep the Contents a Secret. The latter, which is the most material, is a circular Letter, one to the same Effect, being sent by the same Conveyance to all the Provinces and Colonies in *North-America*, and, as we are informed, the Substance of it has been already printed in the Speeches of several Governors to their Assemblies. The Design therein mentioned, of sending two Regiments to *America*, and raising two more in the Colonies, to join them in repelling the *French* Invasions, was no Secret, being avowed in the *English* Prints, particularly in the *London Gazette*, published by Authority. And our Governor himself made very full and particular Abstracts of those Letters in his Messages to the House, which were printed in the *Gazettes* here during our last Session, long before the House adjourned, and no Objection was made to such Publication at that Time that we have heard of. We are therefore surprised, that the Governor should now take Exceptions at the Insertion of those Letters in our Minutes: And as he has not been pleased to point out a single Inconvenience or dangerous Consequence that may attend it, the House is not inclined to expunge them.

We know not what Assurances of Secrecy the Governor expects from us, or what would be satisfactory; and therefore can only say, that whenever it shall appear to the House to be necessary for the King's Service, or the Public Good, to keep secret any Matters laid before them by the Governor, we doubt not but that proper Measures will be taken for that Purpose.

When the Governor was pleased, "on the Tenth of *January*," to demand a Copy of the Minutes of that Sitting, the House ordered them to be printed with all convenient Speed, and that a Copy should be delivered to the Governor when finished. They were accordingly put to the Press, as soon as they could well be transcribed and revised by the Committee for that Purpose appointed; and it seems the Governor has had a Copy of the greatest Part of them, even before they were finished. Ever since the Votes were first printed in this Province, now upwards of Thirty Years, it has been the constant Practice to appoint a Committee to revise the Minutes, which has been done after the Rising of the House; and before they were sent to the Press. And till this was done, Copies were never delivered out, unless of particular Votes, on special Occasions. The principal Matters they contain are generally to be found in the Governor's Speeches or Messages, and the Answers of the House; and these, with such Votes as are material, are for the most Part immediately printed in the News-Papers, and thereby made more Public than otherwise they would ever be. The rest is chiefly Matter of mere Form, Abstracts of

Petitions, and Things of small Import, which very few, even of the People of this Province, think worth perusing or enquiring after, much less are they worthy the Attention of "his Majesty or his Ministers." Therefore, and as it would be inconvenient to the House to make up and perfect their Minutes daily, so as to send a Copy of them to the Governor; and as we see no public Service in such a Practice, nor know of any Right in the Governor so peremptorily to demand it, we are not inclined to alter our ancient Custom. It has been frequent not to print the Votes till the End of the Year, and that without the least Design of keeping the Proceedings of the House a secret from our Governors. And we suppose scarce any Votes of the same Bulk and Quantity have ever been published much sooner than these are like to be. When they appear, we conceive nothing will be found in them, that can give the least Reason to suppose, they were affectedly delayed; or that the Governor's Charge against us, of taking a very extraordinary and unconstitutional Measure to keep them a Secret from him, has any real Foundation. What the Construction is, that the Governor thinks our Conduct in this Respect is liable to, we can neither know nor guess; but whatever it be, we had rather it had been spoken plainly than insinuated; for so we might have had an Opportunity of saying what should be proper in our Justification. However, as we are conscious of the firmest Loyalty to the Crown, and most upright Intentions towards the People we represent, we are not very apprehensive of any great Prejudice from such Insinuations. And when we reflect on the Weight and Importance of the Matters laid before us in the Governor's Message of the Morning, in which he so earnestly presses us to *Unanimity* and *Dispatch*, we cannot but be surprized at receiving Messages of so different a Kind in the Afternoon, such as can only tend to produce *Division* and *Delay*, and to waste our Time in Disputes on Things of little or no Moment, when there is such Danger of losing the happy Opportunity mentioned by the Governor, and Unanimity between him and the House, on this Occasion, is so necessary to the Public Welfare. We could therefore humbly intreat the Governor, to suspend these irrating Accusations, and novel Demands, till a Season of more Leisure, and permit us to proceed, without any further Interruption of that Kind, on the Business for which he has been pleased to call us together, and the very important Matters he has recommended to our Consideration.

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *James Burnside* do carry it up to the Governor.

The the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The Governor's Message of Yesterday Morning was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Sundry Letters from *George Croghan*, and one from *Conrad* Weiser, to the Speaker, containing Accounts of Expences on *Indian* Affairs, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Account from the Governor, amounting to *One Hundred* and *Forty Pounds Two Shillings*, for sundry Disbursements by him paid on *Indian* Affairs, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor's Message of the 18th Instant, *A. M.* was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Worral*, *John Smith*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Message, and report the same to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the 18th Instant, *A. M.* reported the same to the House, and it was read, debated, and, with some few Amendments, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the same being accordingly transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THOUGH the Season of the Year, and the Badness of the Roads, have made it difficult for many of us to attend the Governor's Call of the House at this Time, yet considering the present Circumstances of Affairs, and the Matters of Importance he has been pleased to lay before us, we return him our Thanks for giving us this Opportunity of continuing to demonstrate our Loyalty to our King, our Regard to the

British Interest in *America*, and our Care of the People we represent.

As we are resolved to contribute such Sums of Money as may be consistent with our Circumstances on the present Occasion, we shall immediately proceed to consider the best Methods of raising and discharging the same, and shall forthwith prepare a Bill for that Purpose to be laid before the Governor for his Assent.

The other Parts of his Message will also come under our Deliberation with all possible Dispatch, that nothing may be wanting on our Part which may contribute to the Prosperity or Honour of this Colony; and if the Governor has received any further Intelligence which may be of Service to us in the Course of our Business, we make no Doubt he will be pleased to communicate it to us for our Consideration.

The foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House;

Ordered, That *Peter Dicks* and *John Smith* wait upon the Governor with the same.

Benjamin Franklin, one of the Members of this House, laid before the House a Letter he had received from the Governor, and desired the Directions of the House thereupon.

And the said Letter being read, was ordered to be inserted in the Minutes, and it accordingly follows in these Words, *viz.*

Wednesday, March 19, 1755, Four o'Clock, *P. M.*

Gentlemen,

'OBSERVING by the Minutes of the Assembly which you sent me, that two Letters from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, to me, the one of *July* 5, and the other of *October* 26, 1754, are there printed at large; and as no Person or Body in this Province has any Right to make public his Majesty's Commands to me, signified by a Secretary of State, further than I shall think proper, and as I conceive it may be very prejudicial to his Majesty's Service to publish those Letters, I do therefore notify the same to you, and do hereby forbid you to publish the same.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

To Messieurs Franklin *and* Hall,
Printers in Philadelphia.

The House taking the foregoing Letter into Consideration,

Resolved, That the Letters from Sir *Thomas Robinson* of *July* 5, and *October* 26, were properly inserted among the Votes and Proceedings of the last Sitting; and that the House in their Message to the Governor of the 19th Instant, have shewn, by sufficient Reasons, that the Expunging of those Letters was both improper and unnecessary.

Resolved, That the Right of directing what shall, or shall not, be inserted in the Minutes of this House, is solely in the House; and that the Governor hath not, nor can have, any Right to interfere therein.

Ordered, That the Printer to this House proceed to publish the Minutes and Proceedings of the last Sitting of Assembly as they now stand.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the 18th Instant, *A. M.* and, after some Time spent therein, it was referred to farther Consideration.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and ordered to be taken into Consideration To-morrow Morning.

The said Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE ordered the Secretary to inspect the Journals of your House, from the 17th to the 20th of this Instant *March*, both inclusive, and to take a Copy thereof.

March 21, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Letter from *Richard Patridge*, Esq; one of the Agents of this Province, to the Committee of Correspondence, was laid before the House and read.

The House proceeded on the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the 18th Instant, *A. M.* and, after a considerable Debate thereupon, the same was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That the Consideration of the Governor's Message of Yesterday be referred to the next Week.

The House again resuming the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the 18th Instant, *A. M.*

Resolved, That this House will on *Third-day* next, in the Morning, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Joseph Hamton*, *Nathaniel Pennock*, *Calvin Cooper*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Bill for preventing the Exportation of Provisions and Naval or Warlike Stores to *Cape-Breton*, or to any other the Dominions of the *French* King, or Places in Possession of any of his Subjects.

The Letter from Major General *Braddock* to the Governor was read; and that Part thereof relating to the Establishing a Post between this Place and *Winchester*, was taken into Consideration of the House, and, after some Time spent therein, the House requested *Benjamin Franklin*, Postmaster-General, to consider the said Proposal, and report to the House his Opinion of the best Method of establishing and supporting such Post.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers referred to therein, and the Message being read, is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'GOVERNOR *Shirley*, for securing the Colonies against the future Encroachments of the *French*, having, among other Measures, formed a Design to build a Fort near *Crown-Point*, within the Limits of his Majesty's Territories; and his Council and Assembly having chearfully concurred with him in the Thing, he has sent Commissioners to this and other Governments, to solicit them to join in the Undertaking, and some Time ago wrote me fully upon that Head.

Mr. *Quincy*, one of the Commissioners sent to this Province, is arrived, and has made Application to me. And I now sent you a Copy of his Letter, as also of Governor *Shirley's* Message to his Council and Assembly, their Resolutions upon it, and of his Letter to me upon this and other Affairs. And as you will see by those Papers what is expected from this Province, I heartily recommend it to you, to grant the necessary Supplies for that important Service.

I must desire you to keep this Affair secret; for as you have given me no Assurances of doing so, the bad Consequences of an untimely Discovery, may, though unjustly, be attributed to you.

March 24, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the Paper referred to in the foregoing Message, were likewise read, and are severally entitled as followth, *viz.*

1. *A Letter from Governor* Shirley *to Governor* Morris; *dated* February 25, 1755.

2. *Governor* Shirley's *Speech to the Council and House of Representatives of the Province of* Massachusetts-Bay, *in* New-England, February 13, 1755.

3. *Resolves of the Council and House of Representatives of the Province of* Massachusetts Bay, *February* 18, 1755.

4. *A Copy of a Letter to the Governor* from Josiah Quincy, *Esq; dated* Philadelphia, March 21, 1755.

Ordered, That the Clerk do take particular Care, that the foregoing Messages and Papers be not seen by any but the Members of this House.

The Secretary informed the House, that *Scarroyady* was returned from the *Six Nations* with an Answer to the Message he had in Charge; but having quarreled with his Interpreter, and left him behind, the Governor desired the Opinion of the House, whether it would not be proper to send for the Province Interpreter, as there was no one now in Town who could converse with the said *Scarroyady*.

The Secretary likewise informed the House, that he had the Governor's Orders to inspect the Journals of this Sitting of Assembly, and desired that the House would give an Answer in Writing to this Demand.

Then the Secretary was desired to withdraw for a While; which he accordingly did.

And the House taking the Governor's Message, relating to the Secretary's inspecting their Minutes, into Consideration,

Resolved That this House will To-morrow Morning return the Governor an Answer thereto in Writing.

And the Secretary being called in, was informed of the said Resolution, by the Speaker, by Order of the House; and then withdrew.

Ordered, That *Joshua Morris* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are of Opinion, it is necessary that *Conrad Weiser*, the Province Interpreter, should be sent for, to interpret between the Governor and *Scarroyady.*

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should immediately dispatch a Messenger for the Interpreter.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'BY Express from Maryland, I have an Account of the safe Arrival of the Transports in *Virginia*, with the Troops and Train of Artillery, destined for *American* Service, upon which I heartily congratulate you.

His Majesty's Care and Affection for his Subjects in *America* has induced him to send this large and seasonable Assistance for the Recovery of those Possessions that the *French*, contrary to the Faith of Treaties, have seized; and we shall be greatly wanting to ourselves, if we neglect to make Use of this Opportunity to frustrate the Attempts of that perfidious People.

To render effectual the Measures taken by his Majesty and our Mother Country upon this Occasion, it is expected that the Colonies shall raise an additional Number of Men to join those his Majesty has sent upon this Service; and that they should furnish Provisions, and all Necessaries, to the Forces employed for their Protection; as you will see by a Letter from the Earl of *Halifax*, and another from General *Braddock*, to me, which will be laid before you. And this is so reasonable in itself, that I cannot doubt of its being readily complied with by all the Provinces, in Proportion to their Abilities; and I hope, that as *Pennsylvania* is the most interested in the Event of this Expedition, you will exert yourselves as becomes the Representatives of a People actually invaded, and having their all Depending upon the Success of the present Enterprise.

I earnestly beseech you, Gentlemen, well to consider what may be the Consequence of your now refusing to grant the necessary Supplies, as we may be assured his Majesty will not condescend repeatedly to recommend to you in vain the making Provision for your own Defence but will, doubtless, upon your Refusal, be enabled by his Parliament to oblige those who reap the immediate Benefit of such a chargeable Protection to contribute their Proportion of it; and if by a Disappointment in the Articles expected to be supplied by you, the great Expence that the Nation has been put to for the Security of these valuable Branches of the *British* Empire should be rendered unavailable, you cannot but think you will justly draw upon you the Resentment of his Majesty, and a *British* Parliament.

March 25, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Papers sent down to the House, with the foregoing Message, are entituled as followeth, *viz.*

1. *A Letter from the Earl of* Halifax *to the Governor; dated* Grosvenor-Square, November 26, 1754.

2. *A Letter from General* Braddock *to the Governor; dated* Williamsburg, March 10, 1755.

The following Message to the Governor, in Answer to his Message of the 21st Instant, was delivered to the Secretary, by Order of the House, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WHEN the present Sitting is ended, the Minutes will be revised by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, and immediately printed, and when printed, a fair Copy will be presented to the Governor, according to our long continued Custom.

Till then, we hope the Governor will excuse us, if we do not permit any Person to inspect them, or any Copy of them to be taken."

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use;

Resolved, That the Speaker do now leave the Chair.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use; and after some Time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Hugh Evans*, Chairman, reported, that the Committee had made some Progress in the Matters referred to them, but not having Time to go through the same, they had directed him to move for Leave to sit again in the Afternoon.

Resolved, That this House will again resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use, this Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House (according to Order) again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use; and after some Time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Hugh Evans*, Chairman, reported the Resolutions of the Committee, which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered in at the Table, where the same were again read, and agreed to by the House, and are as followeth, *viz.*

Resolved, That the Sum of *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* be at this Time given to the King's Use; and that the same be struck in Paper Bills of Credit, and sunk by an Extension of the Excise Act for the further Term of Ten Years.

Resolved, That *Five Thousand Pounds*, Part of the said *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, be paid into the Hands of *Isaac Norris*, *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *James Pemberton*, *James Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *John Smith*, Gentlemen, to enable them to discharge the Sums they have borrowed, or may borrow, for the King's Service in Pursuance of an Order of Assembly, made on the Third Day of the Month, called *January*, last past.

Resolved, That *Ten Thousand Pounds*, a Part of the said *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, be laid out in the Purchase of Provisions, now requested by the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to victual the Forces about to march for securing his Majesty's Territories.

Resolved, That *Five Thousand Pounds*, Part of the said *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, be paid in Discharge of such Orders as may be drawn on this Province, for the King's Use, by the Honourable *Edward Braddock*, Esq; General of his Majesty's Forces in *North-America*.

Resolved, That *Five Thousand Pounds*, the Residue of the said *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, be apropriated towards maintaining such *Indians* in our Alliance as have taken, or may take, Refuge in this Province, Payment of Posts or Expresses, Hire of Carriages, Clearing of Roads, and Other necessary contingent Expences for the King's Service, as may be incumbent on this Government to discharge.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Hoge*, *Thomas Cummings*, *Peter Worral*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bill so to be emitted, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, was read the second time; and, after some few Amendments made therein, it was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Bill for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, *&c.* to the *French*, reported, that they had made some Progress therein and should be ready to bring the same to the House To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from a considerable Number of the Cordwainers of the City of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that great Quantities of Leather being of late Years exported from this Province, it is now become very scarce; that the Tanners taking Advantage thereof, not only demand very high Prices for the Leather consumed here, but also raise it to such a Pitch in Lime (to open the Pores of the Hides to let in the Juice of the Bark, that it may tan quick) that it is generally unfit for Use, and makes unservicable Shoes, to the great Deceit and Injury of the Buyers; that the Tanners likewise neglect to scour the Skins from the Dirt and yellow Stuff of the Tan, and to clear the Sole-leather of the Flesh and Offals left by the Butchers on the Hides, by which Means the Hides weight considerably more than they ought; that some of the Tanners also sell their Leather very damp, and the Butchers, by cutting and slashing the Hides and Skins, render them disadvantageous both to the Cordwainers and Wearers of the Shoes; that the Peititioners are often obliged to buy and work up such Leather, bad as it is, or let a Number of Hands be idle, to the Ruin of themselves and Families; that the Petitioners are informed, that several Gentlemen, justly dissatisfied with the Shoes made in *Philadelphia*, on Account of the Badness of the Leather, send to Europe for their Shoes, which Practice, it continued, will occasion the Cordwainers Trade to decline in the said City, and drive a Number of industrious Families out of the Province; that the Tanners frequently buy up the Leather that is sent hither from *Carolina* and elsewhere, and sell it again by Retail to the Cordwainers, by which Means they keep up the Price thereof: The Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would take the Premises into their Consideration. and grant them Leave to bring in a Bill to remedy the Evils complained of, or afford them such other Relief as shall judged most proper.

Ordered, That the Clerk do make out a Copy of the said Petition, and deliver it to some of the Tanners of the City of *Philadelphia*, that they may have an Opportunity of answering the Matters contained therein, should they so incline.

A Bill to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, from this Province to *Cape-Breton*, or to any other the Dominions of the *French* King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Twenty-five Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted*, being transcribed, and read the third time;

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Thomas Cummings* and *Derrick Hogeland* carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence, and acquaint him that the House desire to know what Progress he has made in the Bill for preventing the spreading of infectious Distempers, *&c.*

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to inform them, that he had made considerable Progress in the Bill for preventing the Spreading of infectious Distempers, *&c.* and should lay it before the Council To-morrow for their Consideration.

The Bill to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, and naval or warlike Stores, to the *French*, was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to 10 o'Clock Tomorrow Morning.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores from this Province to* Cape-Breton, *or to any other the Dominions of the* French *King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *Calvin Cooper* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, P. M.

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, and naval or warlike Stores to the *French*, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House two Messages in Writing, with two Papers, entituled as followeth, *viz.*

1. *A Copy of the Minutes of Council, containing what passed between the Governor and* Scarroyady, *on the* 20*th and* 24*th of* December *last.*

2. *A Copy of the Minutes of Council of the* 31*st Instant, containing an Account of the Proceedings of* Scarroyady, *in his late Journey to the Country of the* Six Nations.

The before-mentioned Messages and Papers were read, and the Messages follow in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'SCARROYADY coming to Town without an Interperter, I sent for Mr. *Weiser*, and Yesterday received from his Chief an Account of his Proceedings in the Discharge of the several Matters committed to his Care by the *Ohio Indians*, and the Governments of *Virginia*, *Maryland*, and this Province; which, together with what passed when he was last here in his Way to the *Six Nations*, will be laid before you by the Secretary.

'So much depends on the Disposition and Measures of the *Indians* at this Time, that I must earnestly recommend it to you to make Provision for the ensuing Treaty, as well as to enable me to take proper Notice of this Chief, who is so hearty in our Interest, and of the young Men he had brought along with him, in order to be employed in some Services, which, he says, are of Importance to the general Cause.

'It will readily occur to you, that the several Western *Indians*, who wish well to the *English* Interest, wait with Impatience for the Return of this Chief, and will form their Measures according to the Report which he shall make to them of our Treatment of them; for which Reason it will be of the last Consequence, that this Chief, and these young Men, go from us well cloathed and perfectly well pleased.

March 31, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

GENTLEMEN,

'YOUR Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, being contrary to his Majesty's Instructions relating to Paper-money, and of the same Nature with the Bill I refused my Assent to the last Sitting of Assembly, I cannot pass it into a Law, without a Breach of Duty to the Crown; and I am concerned that you should offer such a Bill to me, when you had agreed to submit the Dispute between us, upon one of the like Kind, to his Majesty.

'As this is a Time of imminent Danger, and the Forces raised and destined for the Service of the Colonies must wait the Supplies from this Province, I again intreat you to fall upon some other Method of raising Money, that we may not lose this happy Opportunity of recovering his Majesty's Dominions, now invaded by the Subjects of the *French* King and preventing their just Encroachments for the future.

'But these repeated Recommendations of so reasonable a Supply shall fail of the desired Effect and any ill Consequences should attend it, his Majesty and his Ministers, a British Parliament, your own Constituents, and the neighbouring Governments, will be at no Loss on whom to lay the Blame.

April 1, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Governor likewise sent down to the House the Bill to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, and naval or warlike Stores, to the *French*, which, the Secretary acquainted the House the Governor was ready to pass into a Law, whenever the House shall think fit to offer it to him for that Purpose; but he recommended it to the House to consider whether it would not be proper to leave out that Paragraph in the said Bill which relates to Boats and small Craft, and likewise to continue the Act in Force for a longer Term.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed that *Josiah Quincy*, Esq; Commissioner from the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*, was attending, and had something to offer to the House for their Consideration, he was called in, and with the leave of the House, read, and then delivered in at the Table, the following Memorial, *viz.*

A MEMORIAL *from* JOSIAH QUINCY, *Esq; Commissioner from his Majesty's Province of* Massachusetts-Bay, *in* New-England.

To the Honourable HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES *of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *now sitting in Philadelphia.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I AM extremely sorry to find, that notwithstanding all the Motives and Arguments I was able to offer his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, he did not see his Way clear to give his Consent to the Money Bill you had laid before him.

'The Chearfulness with which you therein granted *Ten Thousand Pounds*, for victualling the Forces, intended to march from *New-England* to secure his Majesty's Territories, leaves me no Room to doubt your Zeal for his Majesty's Service, or your hearty Concurrence with the Government I have the Honour to represent, in the Measures now proposed for our common Safety: And therefore, though you are unhappily disappointed in the Manner of your Grant, I flatter myself you will not fail to find some other Means of rendering it effectual.

'The Advantages which a speedy and Vigorous Execution of those Measures promises to all the Colonies, and the Mischiefs which a Neglect of them will entail upon us and our Posterity, are clearly pointed out, and fully illustrated in the Papers which have been the Subject of your late Deliberations.

'In rendering this important Service to the Crown, to the *British* Nation, and to their Fellow Subjects, in the other Governments, *New-England* offers to spend her Treasure as freely as her Blood, and were her Abilities equal to her Zeal, would as chearfully bear the whole Expence, as she undertakes the whole Hazard of the Enterprize. But the vast yearly Charge she is subjected to, by her Vicinity to the *French*, and the Necessity of defending so extensive a Frontier from the Incursions of those perfidious People, and their *Indians*, both in Time of Peace and War, has so exhausted her Finances, and burdened her with such a Load of Debt, that without the Assistance of the neighbouring more wealthy Colonies, she must drop the Design, however promising and glorious, as utterly impracticable.

'Happy will your Province be, Gentlemen, if you can keep those dangerous People at a Distance from your Borders, by which you will be free from the many Mischiefs we have always suffered by their Neighbourhood.

'The Opportunity is now offered you, and, if embraced, will, by the Blessing of God, secure your future Peace and Prosperity. But whatever you do, should be determined instantly, for the Season flies, and a Delay may be as pernicious as a Refusal.

'I have just received Advice, that *Connecticut* has voted Fifteen Hundred Men, and that even the little Government of *Rhode-Island* has granted Four Hundred, the Expence of which will be more than is asked of you. *New-York* seems heartily disposed to do her Part; and there is Reason to think that your good Example may have an advantageous Influence on your Neighbours of *New-Jersey*.

'I need say no more to urge you to a speedy and effectual Resolution, but conclude, with the utmost Respect, *Gentlemen*,

Your most humble and obedient Servant,

Philadelphia, April 1, 1755. JOSIAH QUINCY."

Ordered, That Candles be brought in;

And they were brought in accordinly.

The foregoing Memorial was read at the Table, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, referred to farther Consideration To-morrow Morning.

The House agreed to the Alterations recommended by the Governor to the Bill for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, and naval or warlike Stores, to the *French;* and the said Bill was altered accordingly, and ordered to be engrossed.

Ordered, That the Clerk do call upon the Secretary for the Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use; which has not been returned to the House as usual.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* and *James Burnside* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are very desirous to know whether he has come to any Result upon the Bill now before him for preventing the Spreading of infectious Distempers, &c.

Ordered, That *Moses Starr* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Memorial of *Josiah Quincy*, Esq; being again read, and considered;

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* be now given to the King's Use; *Five Thousand Pounds* thereof to repay the Money borrowed for victualling the King's Troops in *Virginia;* and that *Isaac Norris*, *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox* and *Benjamin Franklin*, Members of this House, and *Reese Meredith*, *John Mifflin* and *Samuel Smith*, Gentlemen, be a Committee to lay out the remaining *Ten Thousand Pounds* in purchasing and transporting Provisions, now requested by the Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay, to* victual the Forces about to march for securing his Majesty's Territories.

Ordered, That the said Committee draw Bills, or Orders, on the Treasurer and Trustees of the General Loan-Office, for the said *Fifteen Thousand Pounds;* and that the Bills, or Orders, so drawn by the Committee, be made payable to the Bearer after Twelve Months, with Interest at *Five per Cent per Annum*, until paid.

Ordered, That the Treasurer and Collectors of the Excise do readily receive the Bills, or Orders, of the said Committee, in all Payments for Excise, or in Exchange for any Public Money in their Hands, and allow the Interest due thereon at the Time of Tender, whether before or after the Expiration of the Twelve Months.

Ordered, That the Trustees of the General Loan-Office do readily receive the Bills, or Orders, of the said Committee, in Discharge of any principal Sums or Interest due to that Office; and allow the Interest due on such Bills, or Orders, at the Time of Payment, whether before or after the Expiration of the Twelve Months.

Ordered, That the Treasurer urge the Collectors of the Excise to more Diligence and Punctually in collecting and paying the same; and that he remove such as continue negligent or delinquent.

Ordered, That the Trustees of the General Loan-Office use the utmost of their Care and Dilligence to collect the outstanding Quotas and Interest now due to the said Office, that the Money may be in Readiness to discharge the Bills, or Orders, drawn on them, when tendered for Payment.

Ordered, That the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, Treasurer and Collectors of the Excise, do, when they receive any of the aforesaid Bills, or Orders, for the Public, endorse, on the Back thereof, the Time of receiving the same, and the Interest by them allowed thereon.

The Clerk reported, that he had, in Pursuance of the Order of the House, called upon the Secretary for the Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand* Pounds for the King's Use, who informed him, that the said Bill was with the Governor, to whom he would go for it, and return an Answer to the House.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had Yesterday laid the Bill for preventing the Spreading of infectious Distempers before the Council, and they having made sundry Alterations therein, his Clerk was copying it, and as soon as it was finished, it should be sent up to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto, which was read, and referred to farther Consideration.

The Clerk reported to the House, that the Secretary informed him, that he had acquainted the Governor with the Request of the House to have the Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use returned to them, and that the Governor was pleased to say, "*It was very well.*"

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire he would be pleased to return them their Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, which was sent up to him for his Assent on the 28th Day of the last Month.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of Yesternight, report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, the Bill for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, is of so extraordinary a Nature, that he thinks it his Duty to lay the same before his Majesty, and he keeps it for that Purpose.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE received Intelligence that the *French* have fitted out fifteen Sail of Line of Battle Ships, with which they are sending Six Thousand Land Forces; and though the King's Ministers are informed of the general Destination of this Armament for *North-America;* yet the particular Place they intend to make a Descent upon is still a Secret——But as they have already gained a Footing, and have a Body on the Back of this Province, and cannot be ignorant of the defenceless State of this plentiful Colony, there is too much Reason to fear that their Designs may be against us.

I think it therefore my Duty, Gentlemen, to call upon you to enable me to put this Province into a Posture of Defence, by establishing a regular Militia, and providing the necessary Stores of War.

April 3, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

An Account from *George Croghan*, for Disbursements among the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, from *November* 25, 1754, to *March* 25, 1755, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor's Message of the First of *April*, *A. M.* with the Minutes of Council referred therein, were again read, and considered, and referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed, that *Josiah Quincy*, Esq; Commissioner from the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*, was attending, and has something to offer to the House, he was called in; and addressing himself to the Chair, he read, and then delivered in at the Table, the following Paper, where it was again read, *viz.*

Mr. SPEAKER,

SIR, *Philadelphia, April* 3, 1755.

'THE Sum which this Honourable Assembly has granted to his Majesty's Use, and appropriated for victualling the Troops intended to be marched for securing his Majesty's Territories, is an Instance of your Concern and Zeal for the Public Safety, which I doubt not will be highly acceptable to his Majesty. And as it was made in Consequence of my Application to you, I beg Leave to return you my grateful Sense and Acknowledgement; and to assure you, in the Name and Behalf of the Government I have the Honour to represent, that it will be duly applied to the Purposes for which it was granted.

JOSIAH QUINCY."

The Bill for preventing the Importantion of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel; and for preventing the Spreading of contagious Distempers within this Province, with the Governor's proposed Amendments thereto, was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, the farther Consideration thereof was adjourned till To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Letter from *George Croghan* to *James Wright*, one of the Members of this House, was laid before the House, and read. and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The House proceeded upon the Consideration of the Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* some of which the House agreed to, and in others adhered to the Bill.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* do provide *Scarroyady*, and the other *Indians* accompanying him, with such Clothes and other Necessaries as they may have Occasion for.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *George Ashbridge* wait upon the Governor with the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* and acquaint him, that the House have agreed to sundry of his proposed Amendments to the said Bill, and desire that he would be pleased to pass the same as it now stands; and further, that they acquaint the Governor, that the Bill to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, and naval or warlike Stores, to the *French*, is engrossed, with the Alterations agreed on, and the House request he would be pleased to appoint one of his Council to join with a Member of the House in comparing the said engrossed Bill with the Original.

The Committee of Accounts reported in Writing on *George Croghan's* Account as follows, *viz.*

WE, your Committee, have examined the within Account, and finding the Sums therein charged, for Purchase of Wheat and Flour, so large, without ascertaining the Quantity of each Article, or the Number of *Indians* which have, from Time to Time, been settled at *Aughwick;* and on a Calculation of the Wheat at *Three Shillings* and *Six-pence*, per Bushel, and Indian Corn at *Two Shillings* per Bushel, it will amount to near five Pounds of Flour for each Person, *per* Day, supposing the Number to be Two Hundred, computing five Months from the Twenty-fifth of *November* last, which we think a very high Charge.———We are therefore of Opinion, that the said *George Croghan* ought to furnish us with an Account of the Number of *Indians* which have been at *Aughwick* from the Commencement of this Account; also the particular Account of the Quantity of Wheat and Corn purchased for them, with proper Vouchers for the same, before we allow this Account: And we are further of Opinion, that as the Season is now advancing, it will be most proper for the *Indians* to remove to a Place called *French Town*, situate on a Branch of *Sasquehanna*, where they may be able to plant and hunt for themselves, and if it should be found necessary to furnish them with future Assistance for their Subsistance, it may be done at a far less Expence to the Government. Which we submit to the House.

EVAN MORGAN, WILLIAM CALLENDER,
JOSEPH FOX, JOSEPH HAMTON,
JAMES PEMBERTON, JOSEPH STRETCH."

The 4*th Day of the* Fourth Month, *called* April, 1755.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* or other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* reported, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would appoint a Member of his Council, to join with a Member of the House, in comparing the Bill for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, *&c.* to the *French*, whenever the House should think proper.

A Petition from *Samuel Hazard*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner hath projected a Scheme for the Settlement of a New Colony to the Westward of this Province (a Copy of which is annexed to his Petition); that the Petitioner conceives such a Settlement to be highly necessary for the Safety of this and all his Majesty's Colonies in *North-America*, and would be of very great Advantage to the Trade of *Great-Britain;* and that as the carrying said Scheme into Execution will unavoidably be attended with much Trouble, and a very great Expence, the Petitioner therefore prays, that this House would be pleased to take the Premises into their Consideration and grant such Assistance as to them shall seem meet.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* be appointed to join with a Member of Council, to compare the Bill to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, *&c.* to the *French;* and to wait upon the Governor, and desire he would be pleased to appoint a Time to receive the House, in order to enact the same into a Law.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Mahlon Kirkbride reported, that he had, with a Member of Council, compared the engrossed Bill with the Original, and found them to agree; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he will receive the House at Eleven o'Clock in the Council Chamber, in order to pass the said Bill into a Law.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *James Pemberton* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

An Address, signed by fourteen Tanners of the City of *Philadelphia,* and *Germantown,* in Answer to the Petition of the Cordwainers of the said City, was presented to the House and read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

To the Honourable HOUSE *of* REPRESENTATIVES *of the Province of* Pennsylvania,

The ADDRESS *of the Tanners of the City of* Philadelphia, *and* Germantown.

Humbly sheweth,

WE the Subscribers thankfully acknowledge the Regard you have shewn us, in favouring us with a Copy of a Petition from the Cordwainers of the said City; wherein they groundlessly complain of the Exportation of Leather out of this Province, to the Improverishing of said City in that Commodity, must of Consequence be a manifest Mistake, which, upon Examination amongst ourselves, we do find that for several Years past there hath little or no great Quantity of Leather been exported by any of the Subscribers, or sold for Exportation, but the greatest Part of it is generally sold to the People in the Country. And as for demanding very high Prices for our Leather, we had no Intention, until they, by raising the Price of giving more for *Carolina* Leather than our own, equally good or better, together with their other Conduct, induced us to raise the Price. And that as for engrossing the Leather from foreign Parts imported here, we are in a Measure clear, until applied to by the Owners or Owners thereof: And it is, and has been, our constant Care to import and purchase Hides imported from foreign Parts, to the Amount of several Thousands, within this Twelve months past, by giving an encouraging Price, for the Benefit of the Cordwainers and Commonalty of the Province of *Pennsylvania*: And several of the Cordwainers, subscribed to the Petition presented to the Hourourable House, have been, to our certain Knowledge, so over-stocked with Leather, that they have exposed it to public Sale from Day to Day: And as their assuming the Office of Dictators, charging us in the Manner they do, in over-liming our Hides and Skins, to open the Pores to let in the Juice of the Bark, being directly opposite to our Interest, the Leather thereby weighing so much the lighter; and accusing us with not scouring the Leather from the Dirt and yellow Stuff of the Tan; we are well assured, if they were acquainted with the Currying Business, they would confess and say with us, if Leather were not well scoured on the Grain, it would not take the Blacking; and using the Knife on the Flesh Side, must of Consequence clear them of more Dregs of the Bark than any scouring whatever. And as to their complaining of the Butchers in slaughtering, by cutting the Hides, being very disadvantageous to the Cordwainers and Wearer of Shoes, we, as well as they, would be very glad to have Redress. And they say in their Petition, some of the Tanners sell their Leather damp, which we the Subscribers deny, and Leave the same on them to make appear: And as to the Disadavantage of the Public being served with bad Shoes, it proceeds from the Cordwainers buying the most of their Leather from Foreigners, or out of the Country, some of which is tanned by such as never served their Times to the Business, and thereby prove deficient in their Performances, as well as sewing them carelessly, and with bad Thread, for we generally find the Deficiency in that Part: Therefore, may it please this Honourable House to take the several Matters before-mentioned into your Consideration, and we the

Subscribers hereunto submit the Whole entirely to your Discretion, as you in your Wisdom shall seem meet, *&c.*

The 3d Day of the Fourth Month, 1755.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *John Davison* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner was, about four Months ago, employed by the Governor to go as an Interpreter with two *Indians* to the *Six Nations*, in which Journey he was obliged to part with his Clothes (the Money he was furnished with not being sufficient to bear his Charges); the Petitioner therefore prays that this House will be pleased to grant him Relief in the Premises, and likewise allow him some Money to bear his Expences home.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

Mr. SPEAKER,

The Governor is now ready to receive the House in the Council Chamber.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited on the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, from this Province to* Cape-Breton, *or to any other the Dominions of the* French *King, or Places in Possession of any of his Subjects;* to which the Governor was please to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

The Governor's Message of the First Instant, relating to *Indian* Affairs, and *George Croghan's* Account for Disbursements, *&c.* were again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *Joseph Stretch*, *James Pemberton*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender* and *Joseph Hamton* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Message.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Three Pounds* be allowed to *John Davison*, *Indian* Interpreter; and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Ordered, That *Calvin Cooper* and *Joseph Armstrong* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

Ordered, That the Clerk do furnish *Joseph Armstrong* with a Copy of *George Croghan's* Account, in order that the said

Armstrong may make Enquiry concerning sundry Charges contained therein, and inform the House thereof.

Then the House adjourned to next *Third-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I EXPECT Governor *Shirley* and Governor *De Lancey* in Town this Evening, in their Way to *Annapolis*, to meet General *Braddock*, Governor *Dinwiddie* and Governor *Sharpe*, whither I propose to accompany them. I imagine they will chuse to go forward early To-morrow Morning, as the Affairs we are called together upon will admit of no Delay.

'I think it necessary to notify this to you, and recommend it to you to make a short Adjournment, as it is very probable that I shall have several Matters to lay before you upon my Return.

April 8, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.'

The Secretary also laid before the House a Letter to the Governor from one *Spangenberg*, at *Bethlehem*, in this Province; and addressing himself to the Chair, said,

SIR,

'The Governor commands me to inform the House, that the *Indians* express much Dissatisfaction, and say their young Men are ashamed to go naked through their Brethrens Country, and show themselves among their People at *Aughwick* without Clothes. He further recommends it to the House, to send a careful Man with them at least one Day's Journey; and that they give to *Scarroyady* a sufficient Sum to defray Their Expences in their Journey to *Aughwick*.'

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifty Pounds* be now allowed to *George Croghan*, in Part of his Account, for Disbursements among the *Indians* at *Aughwick*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Benjamin Franklin, Post-master General, reported to the House, that he had considered the Proposal of maintaining a regular Post from this City to *Winchester*, and is willing to undertake the same, and keep an Account of the Expences attending the Maintaining such Post, and the Produce from the Letters conveyed thereby, and exhibit the same Account to the Assembly at the End of the Year, if the House shall think fit to agree to make good the Deficiency, in case the Produce should not prove equal to the Expence.

And the House taking the said Proposal from *Benjamin Franklin* into Consideration, unanimously agreed thereto, and ordered that all Letters sent by the said Post to and from the Army should pass free of all Charge.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Twelfth Day of next Month.

The Draught of the Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the Governor,

As the Season of the Year is not favourable, and the Time when the *Indians* ought to plant their Corn, we hope the heavy Charges, we have sustained for supporting them through the winter, are nearly over: Nevertheless, as we are unwilling to leave them entirely beyond our Notice, we are of Opinion, it may be advisable to settle the *Indians* from *Aughwick*, and such others as may continue to take Refuge among us, upon their own Lands at *French Town*, where there is, as our Interpreter informs us, a considerable Quantity of cleared Land, formerly an *Indian* Settlement. Here they might plant their Corn, and hunt, towards their own Subsistence, and occasionally apply to this Government for Help in Cases of real Necessity. But as our Treasury is exhausted by the immediate Calls of the Crown, in support of the *British* Interest in *North-America*, we are not able to assist them in the Manner we could wish and desire; and what we can do must be conducted with Justice and Frugality.

The Governor has been pleased to recommend to us particularly "to make Provision for the ensuing Treaty—and to enable him to take proper Notice of *Scarroyady*, and the young Men he has brought along with him." We shall provide for this Chief, and the young Men, to their Satisfaction. But as this is the first time we have heard of the Treaty, and the Governor has not been pleased to lay before us the Necessity of such a Treaty, or the Matters to be treated of when there, we presume he will not expect any immediate Resolves of this House, till he shall be pleased to communicate such further Information on that Head as he may judge Necessary."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Joseph Gibbons* wait upon the Governor with the same, and acquaint him with the proposed Time of Adjournment.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he thought the proposed Time of Adjournment was rather too long; but that he should, if he found it necessary, call the House sooner.

An Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of *John Harris's* Account, amounting to *Eighteen Pounds Ten Shillings* and *Nine-pence*, allowed by the House at their last Sitting.

The Committee appointed to furnish *Scarroyady*, and the *Indians* accompanying him, with Clothes, and other Necessities, are directed to employ *George Hutchinson*, who is now in this City on a Message from *George Croghan*, to conduct the said *Indians* over the *North-Mountain*.

Then the House adjourned to the Twelfth Day of the *Fifth Month*, called *May*, next.

At the COUNCIL-CHAMBER, Whitehall, *the* 29*th Day of* October, 1748.

PRESENT,

Their Excellencies the Lords Justices, Lord Chancellor, Lord Privy Seal, Duke of *Bedford*, *Henry Pelham*, Esq;
Lord President,
Earl of *Harrington*,
Mr. Vice Chamberlain,
Lord Chief Justice *Willes*,
George Dodington, Esq;
William Pitt, Esq;

WHEREAS in Pursuance of the Powers granted to the Proprietaries of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal, the Deputy Governor, Council and Assembly of the said Province, did, in 1744, 1745, 1746, and 1747, pass several Acts, which have been transmitted, Eleven whereof are entituled as follow, *viz.*

1. *An Act for the new appointment of Trustees of the General Loan-Office of* Pennsylvania, *and for making current* Ten Thousand Pounds *in new Bills of Credit, to exchange such of those, now by Law current, as are torn and defaced;* passed the 26th of *May*, 1744.

2. *An Act for re-emitting and continuing the Loan of the Bills of Credit of this Province;* passed the 7th of *May*, 1745.

3. *An Act for granting* Five Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use out of the Bills of Credit now remaining in the Hands of the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, for exchanging torn and ragged Bills, and for striking the like Sum to replace in their Hands*, passed the 24th of *June*, 1746.

4. *An Act for the speedy Trial of Capital Offences, committed by any* Indian *or* Indians *in the remote Parts of the Province;* passed the 19th of *October*, 1744.

5. *An Act for erecting a House of Correction and a Work-house in the Borough of* Bristol, *in the County of* Bucks, *and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants of the said Borough for the Public Use and Benefit thereof;* passed the 7th of *March*, 1745.

6. *An Act for amending the several Acts for electing Members of Assembly;* passed the 7th of *March*, 1745.

7. *An Act for the more easy and speedy Recovery of small Debts;* passed the 7th of *March*, 1745.

8. *A Supplementary Act to the Act*, entituled, *An Act for preventing the Exportation of Bread and Flour not merchantable;* passed the 7th of *March*, 1745.

9. *An Act for the more effectual suppressing prophane Cursing and Swearing;* passed the 7th of *March*, 1745.

10. *A Supplement to the Act*, entituled, *An Act for erecting Houses of Correction and Work-houses in the respective Counties, and to the Act*, entituled, *An Act to enable* Jeremiah Langhorne, *&c. to build a Court-house in the County of* Bucks; passed the 7th of *March*, 1745.

11. *An Act for the Continuance of an Act*, entituled, *An Act for the better securing the City of* Philadelphia *from the Danger of Gun-powder;* passed the 8th of *May*, 1747.

Their Excellencies the Lords Justices this Day took the said Acts into Consideration, and having received the Opinion of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, and also of a Committee of the Lords of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council thereupon. are hereby pleased to declare their Approbation of the said Acts: And pursuant to their Excellencies Pleasure thereupon expressed, the said Acts are hereby confirmed, finally enacted and ratified accordingly.—Whereof the Deputy Governor, Council and Assembly of the said Province, and all others whom it may concern, are to take Notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

W. SHARPE."

THE House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Hugh Evans* and *Arthur Patterson* wait on the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House is met according to their Adjournment, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

It being moved that the Clerk of this House would be necessarily absent for a few Days, his Absence was excused.

The House taking into Consideration the great Service done to the King's Forces, and to this Province, by *Benjamin Franklin*, a Member of this House, in his late Journey through *Maryland*, and our Back Counties, it was unanimously.

Resolved, That the Thanks of this House be now given to the said Member for those Services.

Which was done by the Speaker accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait on the Governor with the Message of Yesternight, report, that they delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had nothing at present to lay before the House, except the *German* Bill.

Sundry Letters from the Agents were laid before the House by the Committee of Correspondence, and read, and considered.

Sundry Accounts of *Indian* Expences were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary, *viz.*

SIR,

"The Governor ordered me to lay before the House the Minutes of what passed between him and some *Sasquehanna Indians*, who came to visit this Government since their Adjournment.

"And likewise the several Papers and Letters, relating to the Roads now opening from *Shippensburg*, for the Use of his Majesty's Forces."

The Papers accompanying the said Message were read, and the Draught of the Road now cutting from *Shippensburg*, for the Use of his Majesty's Forces, was ordered to lie on the Table for the Inspection of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Order of *George Croghan's* on *Richard Peters*, Esq; for *Forty-seven Pounds Five Shillings*, drawn in favor of *Paul*

Pierce, on Account of Goods for the *Indians* at *Aughwick*, was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Ordered, That the said Committee report, in one Account, all the Expences made on the *Indians* lately in *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That *Peter Dicks* and *James Burnside* wait on the Governor, and desire to know when the House may expect his Result on the *German* Bill.

Ordered, That a Copy of the Vote of this House, of the Twentieth of *December* last, appointing *Robert Charles*, Esq; Joint-Agent with *Richard Patridge*, Esq; be sent Home, properly certified.

The Gentlemen return, and report, they had waited on the Governor, and delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would send down the *German* Bill to the House this Evening, or To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright* and *John Wright* be a Committee to prepare and lay before the House, this afternoon, the State of the Bills, and other Business, that is now in the House unfinished.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor sent down the Bill for preventing the Importation of *German* and other Passengers, or Servants, in too great Numbers in any one Ship or Vessel, *&c.* adhering to several of the Amendments and Alterations by him at first proposed.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *James Pemberton*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, representing the Inconveniences that will attend the Alteration proposed in the said Bill.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Sundry Letters and Accounts of Expence in *Indian* Affairs, from *George Croghan*, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor on the *German* Bill, reported the same to the House; and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Committee of Accounts reported on sundry Accounts of *Indian* Expences, which were read, and order to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Resolved, That this House will To-morrow adjourn to the First Day of *September* next.

The Message to the Governor, being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

UPON the Governor's Message of the Twelfth of *December* last, recommending to us a Revision of the Laws now in being, relating to sickly Vessels and Passengers, and that we would make proper Provision for preventing the ill Effects that might arise from such for the future, and as far as in our Power prevent the Spreading of any infectious Disorder that might be introduced into this City and Province; we immediately prepared and sent up a Bill, which we presume would, in great Measure, have answered that good Purpose, and at the same Time have left open to the fair Trader all the valuable Advantages which could accrue to the Province from such Importations.

The grievous Calamities we were then threatened with; the melancholy Spectacle of the Distress of so many of our Fellow Creatures, perishing for Want of Change of Apparel, Room and other Necessaries, on board their Ships, and after their being landed among us; the extreme Danger the Benevolent and the Charitable exposed themselves to in approaching those unhappy Sufferers; together with the Governor's own Recommendation, gave us Reason to hope, that he might be at Liberty, and that his own Inclinations would have induced him to have passed such a Bill as might prevent the like for the future: But we are under the greatest Concern, to find ourselves disappointed in these our reasonable Expectations.

By our Charters, and the Laws of this Province, the whole Legislative Power is vested in the Governor and the Representatives of the People; and as we know of no other Negative upon our Bills but what the Governor himself has, we could wish he had been pleased to have exercised his own Judgment upon this our Bill, without referring the Consideration of it to a Committee of his Council, most of them such, as we are informed, who are, or have lately been, concerned in the Importations, the Abuses of which this Bill was designed to regulate and redress.

The *German* Importations were at first, and for a considerable Time, of such as were Families of Substance, and industrious sober People, who constantly brought with them these Chests of Apparel, and other Necessaries for so long a Voyage; but these we apprehend have, for some Time past, been shipped on board other Vessels, in order to leave more Room for crowding their unhappy Passengers in greater Numbers, and to secure the Freights of such as might perish during the Voyage, which Experience has convinced us must be the Case of very many, where such Numbers (as have been lately imported in each Vessel) are crowded together without Change of Raiment, or any other Means of keeping themselves sweet and Clean. But this Provision the Governor has been pleased to throw out of our Bill; and yet we think it so essentially necessary, that the Want of it must necessarily poison the Air those unhappy Passengers breathe on Ship board, and spread it wherever they land, to infect the Country which receives them; especially as the Governor has likewise altered the Provision we had made by the Advice of the Physicians, for accommodating them with more Room and Air upon their Arrival here.

We have Reason to believe, the Importations of *Germans* have been for some Time composed of a great Mixture of the Refuse of their People, and that the very Goals have contributed to the Supplies we are burdened with: But as there are many of more Substance and better Character, we thought it reasonable to hinder the Importer from obliging such as had no Connections with one another to become jointly bound for their respective Freights or Passages; but the Governor has thought fit to alter this also in such a Manner as to elude the good Purposes intended by the Act; by which Means, those who are of more Substance are involved in the Contracts and Debts of others, and the Merchant secured at the Expence of the Country, where they are necessitated, and do become very frequently common Beggers from Door to Door, to the great Injury of the Inhabitants, and the increase and Propagation of the Distempers they have brought among us.

Many who have indented themselves for the Payment of their Passages, have frequently been afflicted with such secret, and loathsome Diseases at the Time, as have rendered them altogether unfit for the Services they had contracted to perform, for which we had provided a Remedy by the Bill; but the Governor has thought fit to strike it out, and leave us exposed to this grievous Imposition without a Remedy.

As we are situated between two neighbouring Governments, not subject to our Laws, we had provided against landing such Importations as we were designed for this Colony, either in *New-Jersey* or the Three Lower Counties, merely to elude the Force of our Law, and to introduce them from either of these into this Province; but the Governor has also rejected the Provision we had made on this Head, as we apprehend, to the utter Subversion of any Provision we can make to regulate this Trade.

From these, and many other Alterations which the Governor, after having had the Bill repeatedly under his Consideration, is pleased to adhere to, we are of Opinion, that should we assent to the Bill as it comes down from the Governor, we should be more exposed to the Abuses and Grievances it was intended to redress, than we are at present by the Laws now in being, if duly executed: We therefore are under the Necessity of leaving all the ill Consequences which may attend the Refusal of passing our Bill upon the Governor himself: and do earnestly recommend them to his most serious Consideration."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* do wait upon the Governor, and delivered the same, and acquaint him, that the House is inclined to adjourn To-morrow to the First of *September* next, if the Governor hath no Objection to that Time.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they delivered the Message of the House, and acquainted the Governor with the proposed Time of Adjournment, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would consider the Message, and if any Thing therein, or any other Matter occured that might require their longer Stay, he would acquaint the House in the Morning.

Resolved, That the Expence of making the new Roads, now cutting through *Cumberland* County to *Wills's-Creek* and *Mohongahela*, shall be defrayed by this Assembly.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account of *Thomas Jervis*, for Expences on *Indians*, and going Express to *Carlisle*, was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz*.

GENTLEMEN,

WHEN I summoned you together on the Seventeenth of *March* last, I was in Hopes you would bring with you Inclinations to promote the Public Service, by granting the Supplies expected by the Crown, and by putting this Province into a Posture of Defence; but I am sorry to find, that neither the Danger to which this Country stands exposed, nor his Majesty's repeated and affectionate Calls, have had any Weight with you.

'The Bill you sent me for striking *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* was of a more extraordinary Nature than that I refused my Assent to in the Winter Sessions, as it gave General *Braddock* a Power over no more than *Five Thousand Pounds*, and subjected the remaining *Twenty Thousand*, and all the Surplus of the Excise, for eleven Years to come, to the Disposition of some of the Members of your House, and to the Assembly for the Time being.

The offering Money in a Way, and upon Terms that you very well knew I could not, consistent with my Duty to the Crown, consent to, is, in my Opinion, trifling with the King's Commands, and amounts to a Refusal to give at all; and I am satisfied will be seen in this Light by my Superiors; who, by your Bill above mentioned, which I shall lay before them, and by the Whole of your Conduct since you have been made acquainted with the Designs of the *French*, will be convinced, that your Resolutions are, and have been, to take Advantage of your Country's Danger, to aggrandize and render permanent your own Power and Authority and to destroy that of the Crown. That it is for this Purpose, and to promote your Scheme of future Independency, you are grasping at the Disposition of all Public Money, and at the Power of filling all the Offices of Government, especially those of the Revenue; and when his Majesty and the Nation are at the Expence of sending Troops for the Protection of these Colonies, you refuse to furnish them with Provisions and necessary Carriages, though your Country is full of both; unless you can, at the same Time, encroach upon the Rights of the Crown, and encrease your own Power, already too great for a Branch of a subordinate dependant Government, so remote from the principal Seat of Power.

You have, Gentlemen, by a Vote of your own House, without the Consent of the Government, empowered a Committee of your Members to borrow Money upon the Credit of the Assembly, and to dispose of the same to certain Uses in that Vote mentioned.—— You have also, by Votes and Resolved, of your own House, created Bills or Notes of Credit, made payable to the Bearers thereof, to the Amount of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds*, which you have issued in Lieu of Money, and they are now circulating in this Province, without the Approbation of the Government.—— You have denied me Access to your Journals, and refused me Copies of your Minutes.—— And you have printed and published the Secretary of State's Letters to me, signifying his Majesty's Commands, not only without my Consent, but contrary to an Order I had issued to the Printers' expressly forbidding the Publication of those Letters.

Whether you have a Right to the Exercise of such extraordinary Powers, his Majesty and his Ministers will judge, before whom it is my Duty to lay your Proceedings as soon I can come at them, and to whom they will appear the more dangerous, as neither they nor you can know but a future Assembly may use those Powers against the Government by which they are protected.

While I had any the most distant Hopes of your coming into Measures that might promote the Public Service at this critical Conjuncture, I suffered some Parts of your Conduct to remain unobserved upon; but as I am now convinced, from the whole Tenor of your Behaviour, and from your Message of yesterday, notifying your Intentions to adjourn till *September* next, without granting the necessary Supplies, that you have no Design to contribute any Thing towards the Defence of this Country, I thought it right to be no longer silent upon those Heads.

Gentlemen, when the Bill to prevent the Importation of the *Germans*, &c. was under my Consideration, I took such advice upon it, and made such Amendments to it, as I thought would best answer the Public Purposes, and put that Trade upon such a Footing as to prevent the many Abuses that had been practised in it, and at the same Time secure this City and Province against the coming in and spreading of infectious Distempers.—— How far the Bill as proposed by you, or amended by me, would, or would not, have answered those Ends, was a Matter proper to be considered at a Conference, which you might have desired if you had thought proper, as it is the only Means of bringing a Bill to Perfection, when the Branches of the Legislature differ in Opinion concerning any Amendments proposed to it; but instead thereof, you have sent me a Message filled with unjust Reflections upon the Amendments proposed by me, and plainly designed to represent me, as having no Regard for the Health or Safety of the Inhabitants of this Country; in doing which, I cannot think you have paid a proper Regard to Truth.—— However, as it is not my Intention to enter into a Controversy with you upon that Bill, which might have been agreed upon between us, had the usual Method of proceeding in such Cases been pursued by you, I shall say nothing more upon the Head, especially as this Matter seems purposely chosen to lead me and the Public from considering that Part of your Conduct that must, in its Consequences, most nearly affect the Inhabitants of this Province.

May 16, 1755 ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the House taking the foregoing Message into Consideration,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Arthur Patterson*, *John Wright* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same, and report it to the House To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of yesterday, reported the same to the House; and it as read, approved, and ordered to be transcribed against the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Two Draughts of *George Croghan* on *Richard Peters*, Esq; in Favour of *John* and *William Madole*, amounting to *One Hundred* and *Thirty-two Pounds*, being allowed by the House, an Order was drawn on the Treasurer for the Payment thereof, signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Orders were likewise drawn for the payment of the following *Indian* Expences, *viz.*

To *John Ferguson*,	£ 2	7	6
For an Order of *George Croghan's*, in Favour of *Paul Pierce*,	47	5	0
To *George Hutchinson* (allowed in *April* last)	55	0	0
To *David Magaw*,	30	0	0
To *Thomas Jervis*,	5	14	11
To *William Callender*,	63	9	9½
To *Richard Peters*, Esq;	104	1	6

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, it was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WHEN we met, in Obedience to the Governor's Summons, on the 17th of *March* last, we really brought with us the sincerest Inclinations to promote the Public Service, by granting the Supplies expected by the Crown; and we trust it will appear to all who impartially examine the Proceedings of that Session, that we did every Thing in our Power, as our Affairs were then circumstanced; and consequently that the

Danger to which this Country stood exposed, and his Majesty's repeated and affectionate Calls, had great Weight with us, whatever they had with the Governor.

The Bill we sent up, for striking the Sum of *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, and giving the same to the King's Use, and for providing a Fund to sink it, had nothing extraordinary in its Nature, or differing from other Bills heretofore passed or presented for like Purposes in this Province, excepting that the Sum given was extraordinary, compared with the Time proposed for sinking it; the Sum for the *Canada* Expedition, in the last War, being but *Five Thousand Pounds*, to be sunk in Ten Years, and this Sum, though five Times greater, was to be sunk by the same Fund, in the same Number of Years. In the Bill *Five Thousand Pounds* of the Sum was appropriated to pay for Provisions bought and given for the Use of the Forces in *Virginia*, under General *Braddock; Ten Thousand Pounds* more was given to buy Provisions for the *New-England* Forces under his Command; *Five Thousand Pounds* more was subjected to his Order, and to be disposed of for the King's Service as he should think fit; and the remaining *Five Thousand Pounds* was appropriated for the Subsistence of *Indians* taking Refuge in this Province, Payment of Posts or Expresses, Hire of Carriages, Clearing of Roads, and other necessary contingent Expences for the King's Service, as might be incumbent on this Government to discharge.—— Thus the whole *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* was appropriated to the King's Service; and almost all of it to the immediate Use of General *Braddock*, or to such Purposes as were by him especially recommended in his letters, laid before the House by the Governor. The Members of the House, mentioned by the Governor, were to have no Share in the Disposition of it; it was disposed of by the Bill, and they could only have the Trouble of laying it out according to the Appropriation, and keeping the Accounts. This is Truth, and well known to the Governor, if he perused our Bill with any Degree of Attention: Yet how differently it is represented in the Governor's Message! It is called only, "*A Bill for striking Twenty-five Thousand Pounds;*" which is but a Part of the Title, the Words, "*and for giving the same for the King's Use,*" being (as it would seem) carefully omitted, lest they might militate against the Assertion which immediately follows, that "*Twenty Thousand Pounds* of it was subjected to the Disposition of some Members of the House, and of the Assembly for the Time being." Then it is said, "It gave General *Braddock* a Power over no more than *Five Thousand*

Pounds," because it gave him a Power to draw for, and appropriate as he pleased, no more than that Sum, though all the *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* (except a small Part for the Support of *Indian* Refuges, which is likewise for the King's Service) was appropriated for his, and his Army's Use, or Services by him required; and we cannot learn that any other Colony besides, hath given, or offered to give, that Gentlemen a Power over as many Pence. Great Subtilty and Dexterity appear in this Manner of disguising Truths, and changing Appearances, but we see in it very little Candour or Ingenuity.

In the next Paragraph of the Governor's Message, there are many Assertions in which we think we are equally misrepresented: we are charged with "offering Money in a Way and upon Terms which we knew the Governor could not, consistent with his Duty to the Crown, consent to." We really thought, and still think, it was inconsistent with his Duty to the Crown to refuse it: If we are mistaken, 'tis an Error in Judgment; we have appealed to our gracious King on this Head, and we hope for a favourable Determination.—— We are charged with "trifling with the King's Commands, and *refusing to give at all.*" though we have actually given great Sums in Obedience to those Commands, and earnestly endeavored to give much greater, which the Governor refused, unless we would give in a Manner which we think inconsistent with our present just Liberties and privileges, held under the Royal Charter.—— We are charged with "resolving to aggrandize our own Power, and destroy that of the Crown." A Charge, as we conceive, utterly groundless, and for which we have never given the least Foundation.—— We are charged with a "Scheme of Independency." We have no such Scheme, nor ever had; nor do we, as a Part of the Legislure, desire any Independency but what the Constitution authorizes, which gives us a Right to judge for ourselves and our Constituents of the Utility and Propriety of Laws, or Modes of Laws, about to be made; and does not yet, and we confide never will, oblige us to make Laws by Direction.—— We are charged with grasping at the Disposition of all public Money, and at the Power of filling all the Offices of Government; a Charge, as we conceive, equally groundless and invidious: We have, by Law, a Right to dispose of some public Money, and we cannot be properly said to *grasp at* what we are in Possession of: That Part of the public Money which the Governor receives, arising by Licences, *&c.* great as it is, he disposes of as he pleases, and we have never attempted to interfere in it; nor can one Instance be given of our attempting to fill any Office, which we are not by some express Law impowered to fill.—— But the heaviest Charge of this Paragraph concludes it; the Governor is pleased to say, "When his Majesty and the Nation are at the Expence of sending Troops for the Protection of these Colonies, *you refuse to furnish them with Provisions and necessary Carriages*, though your Country is full of both; unless you can at the same Time encroach upon the Rights of the Crown." This Charge is really amazing! It requires, however, no other Answer, than a simple Relation of Fact. In the same Session, and as soon as it appeared there was no Hope of obtaining the Bill for giving *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and many Weeks before the Forces arrived, we voted and gave *Five Thousand Pounds* to purchase Provisions and other Necessaries for those Forces; these Provisions were accordingly bought, and are sent to *Virginia*, being the full Quantity required of us: We have since given *Ten Thousand Pounds* to purchase Provisions for the *New-England* Forces; it was given as soon as requested, and before the Troops were raised; those Provisions are most of them actually purchased, great Part sent away, and all will probably be at the Place appointed before they are wanted.—— We gave not a Pound of Provision less than was asked of us, and all the Carriages required of us have been furnished.—— This has been done with the greatest Readiness and Alacrity, and done, we conceive, without the least Encroachment on the Rights of the Crown, unless "borrowing Money on our own Credit" (which we thought even every private Man had a Right to do, if he had any Credit) be indeed such an Encorachment.

Indeed the next Paragraph begins with charging this upon us as a Crime, "you have, [the Governor is pleased to say] by a Vote of your own House, without the Consent of the Government, impowered a Committee of your Members to borrow Money upon the Credit of the Assembly, and to dispose of the same to *Certain Uses* in that Vote mentioned." By this Caution in expressing the Uses, a Stranger might imagine, that they were wicked, if not treasonable Uses; and that the Governor, out of mere Tenderness for his People, forbore to explain them: But the Uses mentioned in the Votes, are, *to purchase fresh Victuals, and other Necessaries, for the Use of the King's Troops at their Arrival;* and to *purchase and transport Provisions, requested by the Government of the* Massachusetts-Bay, *to victual the Forces about to march for securing his Majesty's Territories.* These are the Uses, in the Votes mentioned, and the only Uses; and we can conceive no Reason for touching them so gently by the Name of *certain*

Uses, unless the Governor thought, that being more explicit on the Uses, might seem to lessen, in some Degree, the heinous Crime of *borrowing Money on our own Credit*.

The Governor is pleased to add, "You have also, by Votes and Resolves of your own House, created Bills or Notes of Credit, made payable to the Bearers thereof, to the Amount of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds*, which you have issued in Lieu of Money, and they are now circulating in this Province, without the Approbation of the Government." This Charge, we presume, will, like the rest, vanish on a little Explanation. By the Laws of this Province now in Force, and which have received the Royal Assent, the Disposition of the Interest-Money, and Excise, is vested in the Assembly for the Time being: Out of this Revenue the Assemblies have, from Time to Time, defrayed the Charges of Government. The constant Method of Payment was always this; when an Account against the Public was allowed, or any Expence for public Service agreed to, an Order issued, drawn on the Treasurer, or Trustees of the Loan-Office, and signed by the Speaker, or the Clerk, by Order of the House. As these Orders were generally paid on Sight, they naturally obtained some Credit, and sometimes passed through several Hands before Payment was demanded.——At the last Settlement of the Public Accounts, it appeared, that a considerable Sum of this Interest and Excise Money, over which the Assembly alone had a legal Power, ought to be in the Hands of the Treasurer and Trustees. The Governor himself was pleased to point this Money out to us, to compute the Sum, and urge the House to make Use of it, when in *January* last he refused their Bill for giving *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use. The House alledged, and truly, that the Money was outstanding in many Hands, and could not suddenly be collected, without distressing and ruining the People. However, on the Credit of this Fund, we voted the first *Five Thousand Pounds* for Provisions, and ordered the money to be borrowed on Interest. And at the last Sitting, when the Governor refused to pass our Bill for giving *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, he may be pleased to remember, that he sent us down a Message, in which, after the Reason given for not passing the Bill, there are these Words: "As this is a Time of Imminent Danger, and the Forces, raised and destined for the Service of the Colonies, must wait the Supplies from this Province, I again intreat you to fall upon some other Method of raising Money, that we may not lose this happy Opportunity of recovering his Majesty's Dominions now invaded by the *French* King." The

House accordingly fell on *this other Method;* they gave *Ten Thousand Pounds* of the Money in their Power to the King's Use; they appointed a Committee to purchase the Provisions required, and impowered them to draw for the Sum on the Treasurer or Trustees of the Loan-Office, as had been usual; with this only Difference, that as former Draughts were payable on Sight, and therefore bore no Interest, these being payable in a Year, were to bear Interest; and in the mean Time the outstanding Money was ordered to be got in, that the Draughts might be punctually discharged. Moneyed Men, knowing the Goodness of the Fund, and confiding in the Justice and Punctuality of the Assembly, which has always honourably discharged the Public Debts, have voluntarily furnished the Committee with Cash for these Draughts, which they have laid by in their Chests to receive in Time the Interest. Thus the King's Forces have been expeditiously supplied, the People have Time to pay off their Debts to the Public, and no one is oppressed, distressed or injured; nor is any Encroachment made on the Powers of Government, or any Thing done that has not been usual, or which the Assembly are not by Law impowered to do.——Yet this is what the Governor represents as "*creating Bills of Credit, and issuing them in Lieu of of Money, without the Approbation of the Government;* by which, Persons unacquainted with the Fact, might understand we have been making Paper-Money, and issuing it on Loan, or in some other Manner, to produce an Advantage to ourselves, and attempted to make it a legal Tender without the Governor's Assent, *&c.* all which is mere Misrepresentation or Misapprehension, as will appear by the Resolves themselves to which we beg Leave to refer. After this Explanation of our Conduct, we believe it will clearly appear, that the Governor's Insinuation, as if we had used Powers dangerous to the Government, is as groundless as it is unkind.

The other Charges, of "denying the Governor Access to our Journals, and printing the Secretary of State's Letters," having been made and answered in former Messages between the Governor and the House, we think it unnecessary to take any further Notice of them here.——But we are surprized to find, that after having effectually given *Fifteen Thousand Pounds*, in Provisions and other Necessaries for the King's Forces, maintained at so great an Expence our *Indian* Allies, established a constant regular Post through Two Hundred Miles of Country, merely for the Service of the Army, and advanced a considerable Sum to make a long and Chargeable

Road through the Wilderness and Mountains to the *Ohio*, for the Use of the King's Forces, the whole Expence of which we have engaged to defray, we should still be flatly told by the Governor, "That he is convinced, from the *whole Tenor of our Behaviour*, that we have no Design *to contribute any Thing* towards the Defence of this Country."

The Governor is pleased further to censure us, for not desiring a Conference on the Bill to prevent the Importation of *Germans*, or other Passengers, in too great Numbers in one Ship or Vessel, and to prevent the Spreading of contagious Distempers, *&c.* We own that it is sometimes practiced, when the Governor and Assembly differ in Judgment concerning a Bill, to request a Conference, if there be any Hope by such a conference to obtain an Agreement; but we being, from many Circumstances attending the Bill, without such Hope at present, contended ourselves with laying before the Governor, in a Message, our Reasons for not agreeing to his proposed Amendments, and submitted those Reasons to his Consideration; the Bill may still be resumed, and a Conference entered into at a future Session, if there should be any Prospect of Success. If our Proceeding was irregular, which we think it was not, the Governor may be pleased to remember, he himself set us a more irregular Example at our last Sitting, when we presented him the Bill for granting *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use; for he neither proposed any Amendment, nor desired any Conference, nor would return us our Bill (when we expressly sent for it to be re-considered) according to the constant Custom in this Government, but only acquainted us, that "it being a Bill of a very extraordinary Nature, he would sent it Home to the Ministry," which we hope he has accordingly done, as we believe it will be found, however, the Governor may have misapprehended it, to have nothing extraordinary in its Nature, or inconsistent with our Duty to the Crown, or assuming more than our just Rights and Privileges.

On the Whole, while we find the Governor transforming our best Actions into Crimes, and endeavoring to render the Inhabitants of *Pennsylvania* odious to our gracious Sovereign and his Ministers, to the *British* Nation, to all the neighbouring Colonies, and to the Army that is come to protect us, we cannot look upon him as a Friend to this Country. We are plain People, unpracticed in the Sleights and Artifices of Controversy, and have no Joy in Disputation. We wish the Governor the same Disposition; and when he shall, as we hope he will, on better Consideration, alter his Conduct towards us, and thereby convince us that he means well to the Province, we may then be able to transact the Public Business together with Comfort both to him and ourselves; of which till then we have small Expectation."

And the Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* wait *upon* Governor, and deliver the same.

Ordered, That the Minutes be, with all convenient Speed, revised and printed; and that the Message of this Session and the last, be forthwith printed in the *Gazette*.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they waited on the Governor, and delivered the Message to the House, according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to the *First Day* of *September* next.

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, the House met accordingly.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *George Ashbridge* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them, and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

William Franklin, Clerk to this House, informed the House, that he had by Order of the Committee of Correspondence waited upon the Governor to obtain a Warrant for the Affixing the Great Seal to a Copy of the Minutes of the several Sittings of the present Assembly, and to a Copy of the Bill for granting *Twenty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, passed by the House on the Twelfth of *December* last (which Copies the Clerk had certified to be justly and truly taken from the Journals of this House) to be transmitted Home to our Agents in *England;* and that the Governor was pleased to say, that it was not made known to him that the said *William Franklin* was chosen Clerk of Assembly, and had a Right to certify the Proceedings of the House, but if the House would certify that he was chosen and appointed by them to that Office, he, the Governor, would then certify under the Great Seal of the Province, that he had received such Certificate from the House.—— Whereupon it was

Ordered, That a Copy of the Minute of this House, appointing the said *William Franklin*, Clerk of Assembly, be certified under the Hand of the Speaker, and that the Clerk do wait upon the Governor with the same, and desire that he would be now pleased to cause the Great Seal to be affixed to the before-mentioned Copies.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would send a Message to the House To-morrow Morning, and a Copy of the Writs by which the House were summoned.

The Speaker laid before the House the Lords Justices Approbation of Eleven Acts of Assembly of this Province, passed in the Years 1744, 1745, 1746, and 1747, among which said approved Acts is the Act passed by Governor *Thomas* (after he had received the Royal instruction relating to Paper Money Acts) entitled, *An Act for granting* Five Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use out of the Bills of Credit now remaining in the Hands of the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, for exchanging torn and ragged Bills, and for striking the like Sum to replace in their Hands.*

And the said Approbation was read, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes of the last Sitting of Assembly, now in the Press.

Sundry Letters from Sir *Peter Halkett* and Colonel *Dunbar* to *Benjamin Franklin*, one of the Members of this House, acknowledging the Receipt of the Presents sent by this House to their respective Regiments, and returning their Thanks to the House for the same, were laid before the House, and read.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by his Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'GENERAL *Braddock*, who has begun his March towards *Fort Duquesne*, has represented to me, that in case his Majesty's Arms under his immediate Command should prove successful, and he should take that Fort in its present Condition he will make what Additions to it he may think necessary, and in it leave the Guns, Ammunition and Stores belonging to the Fort, with a proper Garrison.—— But if the *French* should abandon and destroy the Fortifications, with the Guns and Stores, as he has Reason to apprehend, he will in that Case repair or construct some Place of Defence, in which he will likewise leave a Garrison.

'But as the Artillery and Stores he has with him will be absolutely necessary in the Prosecution of his Plan, he is determined to leave none of them behind him, and expects that the necessary Cannon, Ammunition and Stores, as also Provisions for the Garrison, should be supplied by the Governments of *Virginia*, *Maryland* and *Pennsylvania;* and that he may not be delayed in his Operations, he desires these Things may be immediately sent up to him under proper Convoys.

'He has lately received Intellingence, that the *French*, with their *Indians*, intend as soon as the Army is far advanced to fall upon the Back Country and destroy the inhabitants, and this, though he thinks it a Bravado, he communicates to me, that I may take all possible Precautions to prevent it.—— Upon this Application and Intelligence from the General, I have called you together, and must recommend it to you to enable me to furnish such Parts of the Things demanded by the General as is proper for this Province, and to conduct them in Safety to the Places where they will be wanted, which cannot well be done without a strong Guard.—— I must also recommend it to your, Gentlemen, either by establishing a Militia, or otherwise, to enable me to protect the Inhabitants of the Back Country against the Incursions of the *French* and their *Indians*.

'Immediately upon receiving the General's Letter, demanding Cannon and Stores, I wrote to the Governors of *Virginia* and *Maryland*, to know what Stores of that Kind they had, and what Part their Governments would respectively take in that Supply; and informed them at the same Time, that I had summoned you to meet, and till you were assembled could not say what I should be enabled to do in that Matter.

'I need mention no other Arguments to induce you to grant the necessary Supply, than that *Fort Duquesne* is within this Province, and that the great Expence the Nation is at on this Occasion, will be thrown away, his Majesty's Intentions rendered abortive, and his Arms dishonoured, if the Countries General *Braddock* shall recover, are through the Neglect of the Colonies, left in such a naked Condition, that the *French* may take Possession of them again as soon as the Army is withdrawn.

'The Difficulty that has attended the procuring Carriages for the Use of the Army, and for transporting Provisions and other Things to the Camp, makes it necessary to regulate by a Law the Wages of Hire of Waggons, Horses and Men; as also the Price of Provisions that may be wanted for the Use of the Troops now employed in our Defence, that his Majesty's Service may be carried on at a reasonable and moderate Expence, and private Men not left at Liberty to impose upon the Public; I therefore recommend this Matter to your Consideration.

Knowing how necessary your Presence is in the Country at this busy Season of the Year, I would not have called you together if I could have dispensed with it. I shall on my Part expedite Business all I can, and must desire you will not enter on any Matters upon which we have already differed in Opinion, as it will only serve to consume our Time without answering any valuable Purposes.

Philadelphia, June 14, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

A Copy of the Writs by which the House were summoned was also laid before the House by the Secretary, and read.

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *James Burnside* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that as he has in his Message referred to a Letter from General *Braddock*, as the Ground for his calling the House together at this Time, the House therefore desire he would be pleased to communicate the said Letter to them for their Consideration.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that General *Braddock's Letter* contained many Matters which were not proper to be made public, and therefort he did not think it safe to lay the said Letter before the House, unless the House would previously assure him that they would not cause it to be printed; however, as he was not for concealing from the House any Papers that might be of Service, he was willing to show the said Letter to a Committee of the House, if the House should think proper to appoint one for that Purpose.

And the House taking the same into Consideration,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Benjamin Franklin, William Callender* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor thereupon.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to this adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent to the Governor; which being accordingly done, it was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,
IT has always been the Custom of this Province, when the Assemblies have been called by our Governors on Occasion of Letters received, to communicate such Letters to the House for their Consideration.

To give a Committee of the House a Sight of such Letters, does not seem to us sufficient; for if the Letters are to be the Foundation of any important Step to be taken by the Assembly, we think they should lie before the House, to be read, as often as is necessary to a thorough Understanding of the Matters they contain or require.

We know not what Assurances the Governor expects us to give, that the General's Letter shall not be printed, nor what will be satisfactory; nor are we inclined to give any Assurances of the Kind, till we see the Letter; nor do we think any previous Assurances necessary, being certain that the Prudence of the House will be sufficient to prevent the Publication of any Thing that is unfit for the Public View.

And since the Importance of the Contents of that Letter is given by the Governor as the Reason of his hasty calling us together at this unseasonable Time of the Year, and as we cannot take the Letter into Consideration without seeing it, we hope he will not, by starting new Methods of Proceedings, and engaging us in trival Disputes, any longer obstruct or delay the Public Service."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joshua Morris* and *David M'Connaughy* wait upon the Governor with the same.

It being moved, that the Act for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, to the *French*, expired at this Sitting of Assembly, and that it would be necessary for the said Act to be continued in Force for a longer Term, A Bill for that Purpose was brought in by a Member of the House, read the first and second times, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Sundry Letters from *Richard Patridge, Esq;* Agent to this Province, were laid before the House by the Committee of Correspondence, and read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House return, and report, that they had delivered the same. according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act to continue an Act*, entituled, *An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, from this Province to* Cape-Breton, *or to any other the Dominions of the* French *King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* and *Calvin Cooper* carry up the said Bill to the Governor for his Concurrence, and acquaint him, that the House desire he would be pleased to give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill, for preventing the Exportation of Provisions to the *French*, to the Governor, and that he was pleased to say, he would give the said Bill all possible Dispatch.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, Nathaniel Pennock, Calvin Cooper, David McConnaughy, Joseph Armstrong, Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Bill for the better and more regular Provision of Carriages and Pack-horses, for his Majesty's Service in the Province.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'MR. Armstrong, on whose Judgment and kind Assistance I have principally relied in the Purchase of Provisions, and other Necessaries, for the Use of the Men employed in opening and clearing the Road towards the *Ohio*, will inform you of the Progress of that Work, and what still remains to be done; whence you will see that it will be attended with a much greater Expence than was at first imagined.

'The Money sent to the Commissioners has been expended in advancing small Sums to Workmen, either to enable them to subsist their Families in their Absence, or if living at a Distance from the Roads, to bear the Expences of their Journey there; so that the Country People engaged by Mr. *Armstrong* and Mr. *John Smith* to furnish the Provisions, have not as yet received any Thing for them; and as many of them are not able to lie longer out of their Money, it will be necessary to enable those Gentlemen to discharge the Debts already contracted, and to buy what will be further wanted.

'The Price of Hire, Provisions, and every other material Article, was regulated on the Spot, in the Presence of Mr. *Peters*, and the Representatives of the County, who went there at my Instance for this and other necessary Purposes.

'I make no Doubt but thought the Expense will be great yet it will be chearfully borne, and all done in your Power to have the Roads finished with all Expedition; the General having ordered, that the Provisions wanted for the future Subsistence of the Army should be provided out of this Province, and conveyed through this new Road.

'The General has informed me, that he has thought it necessary to discharge a Number of the Soldiers Wives, and has desired they may be subsisted in this Province till the End of the Campaign, towards which, he has ordered a Stoppage of *Twelve-pence Sterling per* Week out of their Husbands Pay; but as this will not be sufficient, I recommend it to you to take Compassion of these poor People, and add as much to it is will enable them to provide a Subsistence.

Philadelphia, June 17, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE lately received Intelligence, and sent the same forward to the General, that several Bodies of Troops have passed from *Canada* over the Lake *Ontario* in their Way to the *Ohio*, to join the Forces already there; that the *French* are using their utmost Endeavors to engage the *Indians* to take Part with them in this Dispute, and are determined to oppose General *Braddock*, though it should require the whole Force of *Canada*.—— There is also great Reason to apprehend, that when the *English* Army is removed to a considerable Distance, the *French* and their *Indians* will fall upon the Inhabitants of the Back Country, and either cut off or greatly interrupt the Communication between us and the Army, which will be attended with very fatal Consequences both with respect to our own People and the King's Troops employed for our Protection.—— And as the General, upon this Intelligence, will think it necessary to keep his Troops as much as possible together, not only for prosecuting his Plan, but to defend himself against the Force they are collecting to oppose him, I must earnestly recommend it to you to grant such Supplies as may enable me to build some strong Houses, at convenient Distances, upon the new Road that is opening to the Waters of the *Ohio*, and to maintain such a Number of Men as may be necessary to keep open the Communication with the Army, and to escort the necessary Stores and Provisions to the Places where they may be wanted, that the General may not be laid under the Necessity of detaching any Part of his Force for that Purpose, which would not only weaken his main Body, and delay his Motions, but the Detachments themselves will be liable to be surprised and cut off by the *French* and their *Indians*.

'I must also recommend it to you, Gentlemen, by a proper Militia Law, to put this Province into such a Posture of Defence, that the Inhabitants may not be exposed to the cruel Incursions of the Enemy.

'If a Number of Men should be raised and supported by this Province, as there are by almost every other Colony upon the Continent, they might not only serve as Escorts, but might join the General, if the Numbers brought against him should make such a Re-enforcement necessary.—— But if these Things be not done, and the Army, by being weakened, should be defeated, or rendered unable to perform the Service they are destined for, or, should they be distressed for Want of necessary Provisions, I am fearful the Blame will be laid principally upon this Province, as we are most immediately concerned, and best able to prevent those Mischiefs.

'When I consider, Gentlemen, the Duty we owe his Majesty, and our Mother Country, who have sent these Troops to recover what we have suffered to be invaded; when I reflect on the Regard we ought to have for the Safety of those Men that are employed in that Service, how much the future Prosperity and Happiness of this Country depends upon their Success, and how easy it will be for this Province, rich and flourishing as it is, to contribute to that Success, by your doing what I have now recommended. I will not suffer myself to doubt but that you will enter immediately upon these Matters, and without Delay take the proper Steps, and grant the necessary Supplies, for carrying them into Execution.

Philadelphia, June 17, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS"

The several Messages from the Governor during this Sitting were again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, they were referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill for the better and more regular Provision of Carriages and Pack-horses for his Majesty's Service in this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

A petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Berks* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the People of the said County are very apprehensive that there will be shortly a great Want of Bread Corn in the Province, as at this Time, by Reason of the late Drought and Frost. there are several Persons mowing their Wheat for Fodder, and the Generality of the Inhabitants believe that they shall not reap above a single Bushel from every Acre of their standing Corn; that these Things considered, with the Neighbourhood of a considerable Army, to be chiefly supplied from this Province, and the Expectation of a large Fleet in *America*, which will doubtless call for a large Quantity of Bread and Flour, the Petitioners humbly conceive, that it is expedient that some Measures be taken to keep the small Quantity of Bread Corn that remains, within the Province; the Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would consider the Premises, and provide a law for preventing the Exportation of Bread, Flour and Corn in such Manner as to the Wisdom of the House shall seem most meet. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for continuing the Act for preventing the Exportations of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, to the *French*, with a Message, that he was ready to pass the same into a Law whenever the House should think proper to present it to him for that Purpose.

Ordered, That the said Bill be immediately engrossed.—— And the same being accordingly done,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill, entituled, *An Act to continue an Act*, entituled, *An Act to prevent the Expectation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, from this Province to* Cape-Breton, *or to any other the Dominions of the French King, or Places at present in Possession* of any of his *Subjects*, is engrossed, and the House desire he would be pleased to appoint some of his Council to join with the said two Members of this House in comparing the ingrossed Bill with the Original.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to appoint two Members of Council to join with the two Members of the House in comparing the said ingrossed Bill with the Original, and that they found them to agree.

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *James Burnside* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

Mr. SPEAKER,

The Governor is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House, in order to enact the Bill for continuing the Act for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, naval or war-like Stores, to the French.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor.—— And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act to continue An Act*, entituled, *An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, from this Province to* Cape-Breton, *or to any other the Dominions of the* French *King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects*, to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

The House taking into Consideration, that the *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* given to the King's Use at the Sitting in *April* last, and paid out of the Monies in the Disposition of the House, could not answer all the Purposes intended by the Bill for granting *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, to which the Governor refused his Assent; but that the Sum intended in that Bill for a general Fund, subject to the Orders of General *Braddock*, and the Sum for defraying *Indian* Expences, cutting of Roads the better to supply the King's Troops, paying of Carriages, Expresses, and other continguent Expences in the King's Service, were yet unprovided for, and the Money in our Power almost exhausted; therefore, it was ordered that a Bill be now brought in for giving a farther Sum to the King's Use for the said Purposes, and that *Evan Morgan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Peter Worral*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *Moses Starr* and *James Burnside* be a Committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law for preventing the Exportation of Provisions to the *French*, report, that the same is done, and that it is deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Bill for striking the Sum of   in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

William Franklin reported, that he had waited on the Governor with the Minute of Assembly appointing the said *Franklin* Clerk of this House, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would issue his Warrant for affixing the Great Seal to the certified Copies of the Minutes of Assembly, and to the Copy of the *Twenty Thousand Pounds* Bill, agreeable to the Request of the House.

Ordered, That a Bill be now prepared for striking the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to exchange such of those now by Law current within this Province as are torn and defaced.

And the same being accordingly prepared at the Table, was read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to *Sixth-day* next, at Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

Sundry Letters to the Governor and the Secretary, respecting the Roads now cutting towards the *Ohio*, were laid before the House and read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

A Member laid before the House a Paper he received from *England*, relating to the Drawbacks on Foreign Linens, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Bill for striking the Sum of   *Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use *&c.* was read the second time, and the Question being put, What Sum should be inserted in the said Bill as given to the King's Use at this Time for the Purposes in the said Bill mentioned?

Resolved, That *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* be inserted in the said Bill as the Sum at this Time granted to the King's Use for the Purposes mentioned therein.—— While being accordingly done, the said Bill was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to exchange such of those now by Law current within this Province as are torn and defaced, was read the second time, considered, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'IN Answer to your Message of the Sixteenth Instant, I think it necessary to observe to you, that whoever is, by the Proprietary Appointment, and the Royal Approbation, made Governor of this Province, has a Right to call the Assembly together whenever he may think it necessary for the Public Service, and from Time to Time, as he shall judge proper, either by Speech or Message, to lay before them the Business he has to recommend; and his Speeches or Messages are a sufficient Foundation for them to proceed upon.

'As to the Letter from General *Braddock*, which, by a verbal Message, you desired might be laid before you, I informed you by your own Messengers, that it contained several Matters I thought improper to publish to the World, and for that Reason could not trust it with the House, unless they would give me some Assurance that it should not be prined.—— This Step I thought the more necessary, as you had but a little Time ago printed and published the Secretary of State's Letters to me, signifying his Majesty's Designs and Commands with respect to the *French*, notwithstanding my Desire that you would not; and when you were informed, that I had directed the Printers not to publish those Letters, you were pleased, by the Plentitude of your own Power, to order them immediately to proceed to the Publication of those Letters, which they accordingly did—— and this you claim a Right of doing, as to all Papers that are laid before you.—— After this, Gentlemen, you cannot be at a Loss for the Reason of my Caution upon the present Occasion, being answerable for every Secret of State that shall be communicated to me by the King's Ministers, or those employed in his Majesty's Service; and am, and from the Nature of my Station must be, the sole and only Judge what Letters, or Papers, that come to me on his his Majesty's Service, are proper to be made public.

'I did not imagine you could be at any Loss as to the Assurance I expect upon this Head; but that you may remain no longer so, a Promise of the House, signified by a Message, either verbal or otherwise, is what I expect—— and whenever you will give it, the Letter you desire shall be laid before you, but till that or something *tantamount* is done, you must excuse me if I do not communicate it.

'As you seem to think, in the Close of your Message, that this is a trival Matter, you may wave it, consistent with such Opinion—— I who think far otherwise cannot do it.

Philadelphia, June 21, 1755

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Fifteen Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund for sinking the Bills so to be emitted*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of Ten* Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, to exchange such of those now by Law current within this Province as are torn and defaced*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That a Message be now prepared, and sent up to the Governor with the Bill for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use.

And a Draught of a Message being accordingly prepared, was read, considered, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

As all the Purposes of the Bill for granting *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to which the Governor refused his Assent, could not be answered by our subsequent actual Gift of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds*, out of the Monies in the Disposition of this House: but the Sum intended for the General Fund. subject to the Orders of General *Braddock*, and the Sum for defraying *Indian* Expences, cutting of new Roads for the better supplying the King's Troops, Hiring of Carriages, Payment of Expresses, and other contingent Charges for the King's Service, remained unprovided, and our Treasury by that Gift is almost exhausted; we now send up a new Bill, to give the additional Sum of *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* for those Purposes; *Ten Thousand Pounds* whereof is for the said general Fund; in which Bill we have carefully followed the Act passed by Governor *Thomas*, in 1746, for granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, and the other Acts relating to our Bills of Credit, confirmed by the Crown on the Twenty-ninth of *October*, 1748; from which Acts so confirmed, the enacting Clauses, so far as they could be made agreeable to our present Circumstances, have been inserted in this Bill, that every Objection arising from the Royal Instruction to Colonel *Thomas*, in 1740, might be obviated by a direct Decision of the highest Authority. And as that Confirmation of our Acts, which we presume will have its due Weight with our Governor, may be more certainly known to him than it appears to have hitherto been, we take the Liberty of sending him the Original Confirmation.

We have only to entreat the Governor would be pleased to give this Bill all the Dispatch in his Power, as our long Sitting at this Time is in every Respect unseasonable, and the Presence of many of our Members is now absolutely necessary at their Homes for the better Security of their Harvests under their present Calamitous Circumstances."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *James Pemberton* wait upon the Governor with the same; and likewise that they deliver to the Governor the two Bills which passed the House this Morning, and acquaint him that the House desires his Concurrence thereto.

Ordered, That *Joseph Armstrong* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'clock *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, and the two Bills, which passed the House on *Seventh-day* last, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The Governor's Message of the Twenty-first Instant was again read; and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

The Bill for the better and more regular Provision of Carriages and Pack-horses, for his Majesty's Service, in this Province, was read the second time, debated, and referred for farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

The Governor's Message, of the Twenty-first Instant, being again read, and considered,

Ordered That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Ordered, That *Thomas Cummings* and *Hugh Evans* wait upon Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know when they may expect his Result upon the Bills now before him.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should send a Message down to the House this Morning upon one of the Bills, under his Consideration; and that the Governor was pleased further to say, that he believed he should also send the other Bill down to the House some Time this Day.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I AM informed that many of the Bills of Credit, now current, are in a bad Condition, and require to be ex-changed; but I observe by the Settlement of Accounts, at the Close of your last Year's printed Minutes, that the Trustees of the Loan-Office then had in their Hands the Sum of *Three Thousand Three Hundred* and *Two Pounds Six Shillings* and *Eight-pence*, of the Money formerly struck for exchanging ragged and defaced Bills; therefore, before I give my Assent to the Bill now under my Consideration, I desire to know what Part of the said Sum has been exchanged since the last Settlement, and how much is now remaining in the Hands of the Trustees.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, June 25, 1755.

The House taking the foregoing Message into Consideration,

Ordered, That the Committee of Accounts do report the State of the Exchange Money in the Hands of the Trustees of the Loan-Office.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto, which was read, and considered, and debated; and, after a considerable Time spent therein,

Resolved, That this House adhere to the said Bill as it now stands, without admitting the Governor's proposed Amendments.

The Committee of Accounts made the following Report in Writing, *viz.*

WE the Committee of Accounts do report, that by Order of the House we have examined the Accounts relating to the Exchange Money in the Hands of the Trustees, and find that by the Report of the Committee last Year, the Remainder of the Exchange Money then in their Hands was *Three Thousand Three Hundred* and *Two Pounds Six Shillings* and *Eight-pence;* but as the Accounts of the present Year are not yet settled, we could not examine and count the old Bills at present in the Loan-Office, but have enquired of the said Trustees what Sums in old Bills they now judge to be in their Possession in order to be sunk, pursuant to our Laws; who inform us, that as the Bills in their Hands are chiefly Tickets, and other small Money, they cannot immediately ascertain the Sum, but believe there may be to the Value of *Two Thousand Pounds* now ready for the Committee. This Sum would leave, to complete the Sinking of all the Bills struck by our several Acts for exchanging torn and ragged Bills, *One Thousand Three Hundred* and *Two Pounds Six Shillings* and *Eight-pence*, which very probably may be brought in to the Trustees by the usual Time of settling our Accounts, and by that Means all those Acts may be finally answered.

WILLIAM CALLENDER, EVAN MORGAN,
JOSEPH HAMTON, JOSEPH FOX,
THOMAS CUMMINGS, JOSEPH STRETCH."

Ordered, That the following Message be now sent up to the Governor, in Answer to his Message of this Morning, and that *Calvin Cooper* and *Peter Worral* wait upon the Governor with the same, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

BY the Report of a Committee of our House, we find, that it appears by the last Year's Accounts, the Remainder of the Exchange Money was then *Three Thousand Three Hundred* and *Two Pounds Six Shillings and Eight-Pence;* about *Two Thousand Pounds* whereof, by the best Judgment the Trustees can make, is now in their Hands, in order to be sunk by our present Committee; but as this is not the usual Time of settling the Accounts of the Year, the Sum cannot be exactly ascertained without much Trouble, as it consists for the most Part of Bills of the smallest Denominations, which are much torn and defaced. This Sum when sunk would leave about *Thirteen Hundred Pounds* in their Hands for exchanging torn and ragged Bills, which may probably be brought in by the Time our Accounts are settled, and by that Means those Acts may be finally completed.

Signed by Order of the House,

Philadelphia, June 25, 1755. *P. M.* ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House report, that they delivered the same according to Order.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *George Ashbridge* wait upon the Governor with the Bill for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, and acquaint him, that the House adhere to the said Bill in all its Parts, and desire to know whether he is willing to pass it into a Law as it now stands; and further, that they request the Governor would be pleased to return the Lords Justices Approbation of the *Pennsylvania* Acts, which was sent up to him with the said Bill.

A Letter to the Speaker, from *Samuel Hazard*, concerning his Petition to the House in *April* last, relating to a Scheme for settling a new Colony to the Westward of this Province, was laid before the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

An Account from the Governor for Sums paid by him for Expresses, amounting to *Thirty Pounds Four Shillings* and *Three pence;* and *Seventeen Pounds Twelve Shillings*, paid by the Secretary for the Governor's Expences at *Chester*, &c. in going down to *Alexandria*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House return, and report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should again take the Bill for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use into his Consideration.

The Gentlemen likewise brought down the Lord's Justices Approbation of the *Pennsylvania* Act, which the Governor was pleased to return to them, pursuant to the Request of the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message to the Twenty-first Instant, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with the Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'GOVERNOR *Shirley* has represented to me, that notwithstanding the Measures taken in the several Colonies to prevent the Supplying the *French* with Provisions, a Trade of that Kind is carried on, under the Pretence of going to *Newfoundland;* for preventing which within his Government, the Legislature have passed a Law which I have ordered to be laid before you, together with Governor *Shirley's* Letter to me upon that Head; and, agreeable to his Request, recommend it to you to fall upon Methods effectually to prevent such a Trade from this Province.

Philadelphia, June 26, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Secretary likewise laid before the House a Copy of a Letter from the Governor to *Conrad Weiser*, and another from the said *Weiser* to the Secretary, relating to *Indian* Affairs, which were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Persual of the Members.

Ordered, That the Bill for the better and more regular Provision of Carriages and Pack-horses, for his Majesty's Service, in this Province, be committed to the Committee who brought it in for Amendment.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for striking the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds* for exchanging of torn and defaced Bills now by Law current within this Province, with some proposed Amendments, which were read, considered, and referred to further consideration.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE Power of calling the Assembly together whenever the Public Service requires it, in the intermediate Times of their Adjournments, we presume, is, and ought to be, lodged in the Governor of this Province; and we do not recollect any Instance in which it has been either disputed or disobeyed: So long as that Power is duly exercised, the sudden and unforseen Exigences of Government are provided for, the Assemblies impowered to act at all Times for the public Good, and the People themselves obliged; and accordingly we find the Representatives, when thus summoned, repeatedly acknowledge the Governor's Care in calling them together by his Writs, in which the Reasons have generally been inserted, and a proper Regard has been shewn to the convenience of the Members in their Harvests, and at the other unseasonable Times of the Year, or when the public Affairs were pressing, a suitable Dispatch has been given, on the Part of our Governors, without studied Delays, or introducing Matters of small Importance directly tending to frustrate the Ends for which they were called together. And under this Oeconomy the Members have cheerfully attended whenever the Public Business has unavoidably interfered with their private Interests. But should our Governors consider this Power, as a Power of bringing us together at a great Expence to the Country, merely to shew their Abilities in contriving new Modes, or making new Demands upon the People, to obstruct the Ends of their Meeting, we apprehend it will answer no valuable Purposes.

The Governor is pleased to inform us, that as he has a Power to summon us by his Writs, he has also a Right, by Speech or Message, to lay before us the Business he has to recommend, and that his Speeches or Messages are a sufficient Foundation for the Assembly to proceed upon; and it may occasionally be true: But when his Writs are issued upon Letters or Advices, referred to in his Speeches and Messages, we conceive the original Papers ought to be laid before us, as has ever been the Practice in this Province; and a different Conduct at this Time, can tend only to create a Misunderstanding between the several Branches of the Legislature, and obstruct the Ends for which he has called us togehter.

By the Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth of *December* last we are told, that "the Conduct of his Predecessor is no Rule to him, nor will his be for any one that may succeed him;" but however Governors may be changed, or with whatever views they may succeed one another, it will become the People to make their own Actions consistent, which we conceive can only be done by making such original Papers as the Governor shall think fit to lay before us the Rule of our Proceedings. It is true, the Governor has told us repeatedly, that upon our printing the Secretary of State's Letter, we "could not be at a Loss for the Reason of his Caution in laying General *Braddock's* Letter before the House;" but when we consider the full Answer already given to that Objection, we are really at a Loss to conceive why he should think it of any Weight, unless he can shew, that the Printing it disclosed any of his Majesty's Designs and Commands, with respect to the *French*, not more generally known before by his own Messages, the public Prints, and the Speeches of other Governors, than they could be by our publishing them in our Votes, especially as it was communicated to us without the least Caution, and was actually printed before we had any Knowledge of the Governor's Objection to it.

That the Governor may be "answerable for every Secret of State, communicated to him by the King's Ministers, or those employed in his Majesty's Service," may be true; but if they are such as he is enjoined to lay before the Assembly, and he accordingly recommends them as such, we presume he will be acquitted, and the House must be answerable for their own Conduct. But if the Governor supposes, that from the Nature of his Station he must be "the sole and only Judge" what Letters or Papers, coming to him on his Majesty's Service, are proper to be made public, we are under a Necessity of differing from him so far as such Letters or Papers are to be the Justification of our Conduct, which we presume the House may publish or not, according to their own Prudence, in which, we are assured, the Governor may very safely confide."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Grubb* and *Joseph James* wait upon the Governor with the same, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know whether he has come to any Result upon the Bill now before him for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had the Amendments which he proposed to the Bill for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use now under his Consideration, and should return the said Bill to the House this Afternoon.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for granting *Fifteen Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, with a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE re-considered the Amendments made by me to the bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Fifteen

Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use, and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted*, and do adhere to those Amendments.

Philadelphia, June 27, 1775.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for striking *Ten Thousand Pounds* for exchanging ragged and torn Bills, being again read and considered; some of them were agreed to by the House, and in others the House adhered to the Bill.

Ordered, That *William Smith* and *Joseph Hamton* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and acquaint him, that the House have agreed to sundry of his proposed Amendments, and desire that he would be pleased to pass the Bill as it is now amended.

The Committee to whom the Bill for the better and more regular Provision of Carriages and Pack-horses, for his Majesty's Service in this Province, was recommitted for Amendment, reported the same to the House, with sundry Alterations they had made therein; and the same was read, and referred to farther Consideration.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill, for striking *Ten Thousand Pounds* for exchanging ragged and torn Bills, to the Governor, with a Paper containing such of his proposed Amendments as the House had agreed to, according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for striking the Sum of *Ten Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to exchange such of those now by Law current within this Province as are torn and defaced, with a Message, that the Governor had withdrawn his first proposed Amendement to the said Bill, and agreed to the Amendments the House had made upon his second proposed Amendments; and was ready to pass the same into a Law whenever the House should present it to him for that Purpose.

Ordered, That the said Bill be ingrossed,——And the same being done accordingly.

Ordered, That *Hugh Evan* and *Peter Dicks* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill for striking *Ten Thousand Pounds* for exchanging ragged and torn Bills is engrossed, with the Alterations agreed on, and the House desire he would be pleased to appoint a Member of Council to meet a Member of this House, in order to compare the said Bill: And further, desire to know what Time the Governor would be pleased to appoint that the House should wait upon him, in order to the passing the same into a Law.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had deliver the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would immediately appoint a Member of Council to meet a Member of this House, to compare the ingrossed Bill; and that he would be ready in Half an Hour to receive the House in the Council Chamber, in order to enact the said Bill into a Law.

Ordered, That *Peter Dicks* do meet a Member of Council to compare the engrossed Bill with the Original.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the First Day of *September* next.

Peter Dicks reported, that he had with a Member of Council compared the engrossed Bill, and found it to agree with the Original.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Joseph Fox* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law after it is passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office: And further, that they acquaint the Governor with the proposed Time of Adjournment.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

The Governor is now in the Council Chamber ready to receive the House, in order to pass the Bill into a Law.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited on the Governor.

The House being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entitled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Ten Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, to exchange such of those now by Law current within this Province as are torn and defaced;* to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

The Gentlemen appointed to acquaint the Governor with the proposed Time of Adjournment, reported, that they had done the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had no Objection thereto.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Two Hundred Pounds* Sterling be now remitted to our Agents in *Great-Britain*, to lie in their

Hands for the Service of the Province, and to be accounted for by them hereafter.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, report, that the same is done, and that it is deposited in the Rolls Office.

Ordered, That the Bill for the better and more regular Provision of Carriages and Pack-horses, for his Majesty's Service in this Province, be referred to the Consideration of the House at their next Sitting.

Resolved, That, till the next Sitting of Assembly, this House will pay such reasonable Charges as shall be necessarily expended (over and above their *Twelve-pence* Sterling *per* Week allowed them by the General) for the Support of such of the Women as are now in Town belonging to the Army, or that may hereafter arrive from thence, recommended by the General.—— And the House do request the Overseers of the Poor of the City of *Philadelphia* to take the said Women under their Care, and provide for them in such Manner as shall be least expensive to the Province.

Then the House adjourned to the First Day of *September* next.

THE Representatives of the Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, the House met accordingly.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met, in Pursuance of his Writs, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them; and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock Tomorrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should have laid the Business he had for the Consideration of the House before them Yesterday Afternoon, had not the shocking News he had received of the Defeat of the Army preventing his getting it ready Time enough; but that the House should hear from him this Morning, and have a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

Sundry Letters from *Richard Patridge*, Esq; one of the Agents of this Province at the Court of *Great Britain*, to the Committee of Correspondence, were laid before the House and read.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

The Governor requires the Attendance of the House at the Council Chamber immediately.

The Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor accordingly.—— And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, who was pleased to make a Speech to this House, a Copy of which he had delivered to the Speaker, with two Letters, which he informed the House he had received since his coming to the Council Chamber, containing the Particulars of the Defeat of the Army under the Command of the late General *Braddock*, and a List of the killed and wounded.

The Secretary brought down to the House a Copy of the Writs by which the House were summoned, also sundry letters and Papers which the Governor had received concerning the late Defeat.

The Governor's Speech was read at the Table, by Order, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

'IT is with the greatest Concern I now lay before you the melancholy Accounts of the Defeat of the Forces under the immediate Command of General *Braddock*, which you find is attended with very shocking Circumstances; the General killed, and most of the Officers that were in the Action are either killed or wounded; the Bulk of the Men cut off; his whole Train of Artillery taken; and Colonel *Dunbar* is now retreating, with the Remains of the Army, to Fort *Cumberland*. This unfortunate and unexpected Change in our Affairs will deeply affect every one of his Majesty's Colonies, but none of them in so sensible a Manner as this Province, which, having no Militia, is thereby left exposed to the cruel Incursions of the *French*, and their barbarous *Indians*, who delight in shedding human Blood, and who make no Distinction as to Age or Sex.—— as to those that are armed against them, or such as they can surprize in their peaceful Habitations.—— all are alike the Objects of their Cruelty,—— slaughtering the tender Infant and frightened Mother with equal Joy and Fierceness. To such Enemies, spurred on by the native Cruelty of their Tempters, encouraged by their late Success, and having now no Army to fear, are the Inhabitants of this Province exposed—— and by such must we now expect to be over-run, if we do not immediately prepare for our own Defence; nor ought we to content ourselves with this, but resolve to drive and confine the *French* to their own just Limits.

'This, Gentlemen, however, gloomy the present Appearance of Things may be, is certainly in the Power of the *British* Colonies to do; and this is not only their truest and most lasting Interest, but their highest Duty.—— The Eastern Governments have already gone a great Way towards removing that faithless but active People from their Borders; let us follow the noble Example they have set us, shew ourselves worthy of the Name of *Englishmen*, and, by a vigorous Exertion of our Strength, dislodge the Enemy from our Frontiers, and secure the future Peace and Safety of the Province; for we may assure ourselves, that while they possess the Countries they have unjustly seized, we never shall truly enjoy either.

'Allow me therefore, Gentlemen, to recommend to your most serious Consideration the present State and Condition of your Country, the Danger to which the Lives and Properties of all those you have undertaken to represent stand exposed at this critical and melancholy Conjuncture; and to desire that you would not, by an ill-timed Parsimony, by reviving any Matters that have been in Dispute, or from any other Motive, suffer the People to remain any longer undefended, or the Blood of the Innocent to be shed by the Cruel Hands of Savages.—— There are Men enough in this Province to protect it against any Force the *French* can bring, and Numbers of them are willing and desirous to defend their Country upon the present Occasion, but they have neither Arms, Ammunition nor Discipline without which it will be impossible to repel an active Enemy whose Trade is War.—— I therefore hope, that you will, without Delay, grant such Supplies as may enable me not only to secure the People of this Province, but by reinforcing and assisting the King's Troops, enable them to remove the *French* from their present Encroachments.

'If something very effectual be not done at this Time for the Safety and Security of the Province, the Enemy, who know how to make the best Use of a Victory, will strengthen themselves in such a Manner, that it will be next to impossible for us to remove them.

'Upon the earliest Intelligence of the Defeat of our Forces, knowing the immediate Danger to which we were exposed, I summoned you together that you might have a timely Opportunity of exerting yourselves in the Service of your Country, and of setting a proper Example to the neighboring Colonies, who will doubtless, if we do our Duty, employ their utmost Strength upon the present Occasion, and heartily join in any Measures that may be concerted for our common Safety.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The several Letters and Papers brought down by the Secretary this Morning, concerning the late Defeat of the Troops under General *Braddock*, were read, considered, and referred to farther Consideration.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered, and referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock Tomorrow Morning.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary;

SIR,

The Governor orders me to acquaint the House, that the Indian Jagrea, *who went from this City in* December *last to the* Owendaets, *is on his Return here, in Company with four Deputies of that Nation; and that as well for this as other Reasons which arise from the present Exigence of Affairs, he thinks it necessary Mr.* Weiser *should be immediately sent for by Express.*

The House taking the foregoing Message into Consideration,

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that it is proper that *Conrad Weiser* should be sent for at this Time; and this House will pay such reasonable Expences as shall accure thereupon.

The House being informed, that the Secretary was attending without, the Clerk was ordered to inform him of the foregoing Resolution, which was accordingly done.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Governor's Speech, and, after a considerable Time spent therein,

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* be, at this Time, granted to the King's Use.

Resolved, That this House will To-morrow Morning resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising the said Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Order of the Day being read,

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising the Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use; and, after some Time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Hugh Evans*, Chairman, reported, that the Committee had made some Progress in the Matters referred to them, but not having Time to go through the same, they had directed him to move for Leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this House will again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Ten o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Resolved, That this House will this Afternoon resolve itself into a Committee, to take under their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Letters relating thereto, which were severally read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE just now received Information from Fort *Cumberland*, that Colonel *Dunbar* arrived there on the Twenty-second Instant with the Army, having about Three Hundred wounded Officers and Soldiers, and that he intended, as soon as Circumstances would admit, to march to this City, for which he is already making the necessary Dispositions. The Removal of the Army from the Frontiers will leave the Back Settlements entirely exposed to the Incursions of the *French* and *Indians*, who are flushed by their late Victory, and will be encouraged, by the Retreat of the Forces, to penetrate deep into the Province, and the People being defenceless, will immediately quit their Habitations.

'I lay these Matters before you, that you may as soon as possible fall upon Measures for the Protection of the Western Frontiers, in which you may assure yourselves my best Assistance shall not be wanting.

'I think it highly necessary, that his Majesty and his Ministers, should, as soon as possible, be informed of what has happened, and of the State of the Province, that they may take proper Measures for our Security; and therefore recommend it to you to enable me to dispatch a Vessel to *England* for that Purpose.

Philadelphia, July 28, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Secretary addressing himself to the Chair, said,

SIR,

The Governor commands me to acquaint you, that the Express is returned from Mr. Weiser, *who, you will see by his Answer, is indisposed, and cannot come himself, but has sent his Son to meet and accompany* Jagrea, *and the other* Indians, *by his House to this Town.*

Mr. Weiser *reminds him of the Contents of the Letter lately communicated to you concerning the Support of the* Indian *Women from* Aughwick, *and as he presses for an Answer, you will be pleased to enable the Governor to give one.*

The Governor lays before you a Letter, signed by Mr. Weiser, *and some other Justices of the County of* Berks, *representing the State of the* Roman Catholicks *in that Neighbourhood, and praying, that certain Measures may be taken; concerning which he would be glad to have your Advice and Assistance.*

The Letters mentioned in the foregoing verbal Message were also read, and considered, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The House taking into Consideration that Part of the Governor's Message which relates to Colonel *Dunbar's* Design of coming immediately to this City with the Army under his Command.

Orderd, That *Benjamin Franklin, James Wright* and *John Wright* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor upon that Head.——And the same being accordingly done, was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

"We have considered that Part of the Governor's Message relating to the proposed March of Colonel *Dunbar's* Forces from Fort *Cumberland* to *Philadelphia;* and as the People on the Frontiers are at present under great Apprehensions of Danger, and ready to abandon their Settlements; and those Forces, if properly disposed, might contribute very much to their Security, and be as well provided with every Thing as they could be at *Philadelphia;* and as there are yet several Months in which the Weather in this Climate is commonly such as that it is not absolutely necessary Men should go into Quarters; we would request the Governor to take the Steps that may be proper to procure a Disposition of the Troops in such Places, as may be most suitable for the Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Colonies, at least till the Approach of Winter."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon the Governor with the same.

An Account from *Robert Thompson*, Esq; of *Lancaster*, for Cash paid by him for the Hire of Horses for two Expresses which passed through the said Town on public Business, amounting to *Three Pounds Thirteen Shillings*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The Order of the Day being read for the House to resolve itself into a Committee, to take under their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use.

Resolved, That this House will To-morrow Morning resolve itself into the said Committee.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, William Callender, Joseph Hamton, George Ashbridge, James Wright, John Wright, John Smith* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Address in Answer to the Governor's Speech.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent town to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

‘ON the present Emergency I think it proper, on the Part of the Proprietaries, to propose, as an addional Encouragement to such Persons as shall now engage and go upon an expedition from this or the neighbouring Provinces, to remove the *French* from their Encroachment on the River *Ohio*, to grant the following Quantities of Land West of the *Allegeny* Mountains, without any Purchase Money, and with an Exemption from the Payment of Quitrent for the Space of Fifteen Years from the first Day fo *March* next, *viz.*

	Acres.
To every Colonel,	1000
To each Lieutenant Colonel and Mayor,	750
To every Captain,	500
To each Lieutenant and Enign,	400
To every common Soldier,	200

The said Lands to be patented to the respective Officers and Soldiers, their Heirs or Assigns, without any Fees or Charges but those of surveying, on Condition of Settlement within the Space of three Years after the Removal of the *French*. And I do recommend to you to afford some Assistance to such as shall incline to accept of the above Terms, and make Settlements accordingly.

Philadelphia, July 29, 1775. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.”

The Secretary likewise brought down a Letter from one *Hart*, formerly an *Indian* Trader in this Province, and lately returned from *Canada*, whither he fled to avoid being apprehended for killing a Man in *Cumberland* County; which Letter the Secretary said, the Governor recommended to the Consideration of the House, and desired they would give him their Advice upon the same.

The Order of the Day being read.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee, to take under their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use; and, after some Time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Hugh Evans*, Chairman, reported, that the Committee had had under their further Consideration the Matters referred to them, but not having Time to go through the same, they had directed him to move for Leave to sit again in the Afternoon.

Resolved, That this House will again resolve itself into a Committee, to take into their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, this Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Remonstrance from sundry Inhabitants of the City and County of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Remonstrants are informed, that this House have voted *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use; to be raised by a general Tax on Estates, Real and Personal, in this Province; that they with all Submission conceive, that *One Hundred Thousand Pounds* is as small a Sum as will answer the present Exigency, and are therefore willing to contribute their Proportion of the same, or to a larger Sum, if the House should think it necessary.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The House according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee, to take into their further Consideration Ways and Means for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use; and, after some Time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Hugh Evans*, Chairman, reported, that the Committee had gone through the Matters referred to them, and had come to two Resolutions thereupon, which the Committee had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his Place, and afterwards delivered them in at the Table, where they were again read, and agreed to by the House, as follows;

Resolved, That a Tax be now laid upon all Estates, Real and Personal, within this Province.

Resolved, That the whole of the Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds*, to be now raised for the King's Use, be raised by a Tax of *Twelve-pence per pound* and *Twenty Shillings per* Head, yearly, for two Years, on all the Estates, Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in,pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions; and it is referred to *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*. *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph James*, *James Wright*, *John Wright*, and *John Smith* to prepare and bring in the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Address, in Answer to the Governor's Speech, reported the same to the House; and it was read, considered, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed, that it may be sent up to the Governor, And the same being accordingly done, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq;
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of
Pennsylvania, &c.

The ADDRESS of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met, at *Philadelphia*, the 30th Day of the *Seventh Month*, called *July*, 1755.

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have deliberately and seriously considered the Governor's Speech of the Twenty-fourth Instant, together with the Letters and Papers he had been pleased to lay before us, by which we find, that the Defeat of the Forces, under the immediate Command of General *Braddock*, and the Retreat of Colonel *Dunbar* to Fort *Cumberland*, are attended with very shocking Circumstances: Nevertheless, it gives us real Satisfaction, under this unfortunate and unexpected Change in our Affairs, that this Province has seasonably and chearfully complied with the Demands of the King's Forces, and that no Part of this unhappy Defeat can be laid to our Charge.

We think it our Duty on this Occasion to be neither parsimonious nor tenacious of such Matters as have been in Dispute, and are now under the Consideration of our Superiors; but, reserving to ourselves all our just Rights, we have resolved to grant *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, by a Tax on all the real and personal Estates within this Province, in which we shall proceed with all possible Dispatch; hoping to meet in the Governor the same good Dispositions he so earnestly recommends to us.

The Governor's Call of our House at this Time is agreeable to us, as it impowers us to exert ourselves yet farther in the Service of our Country; and the like Opportunity given to the Lower Counties, under the Governor's Administration, we doubt not will be acceptable to them, and add their Contribution to the common Cause before the Time to which they stand adjourned."

And the said Address being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Nathaniel Grubb*, *Calvin Cooper*, *John Wright*, *John Smith* and *Moses Starr* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Address of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

A Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds for the King's* Use, by a Tax of *Twelve-pence per* Pound, and *Twenty Shillings per* Head, yearly, for two Years, on all Estates, Real and Personal, within this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Sundry Petitions from many of the Inhabitants of the Townships of *Paxton*, *Derry* and *Hanover*, and from other the Inhabitants of the Back Counties, were presented to the House and read, setting forth the great Danger they apprehend themselves to be in since the late Defeat of the Forces under General *Braddock*, and praying that this House would furnish them with Arms and Ammunition for Defence of their Houses and Families, or provide for their Protection and Safety in such other Manner as to the Wisdom of the House shall seem most meet. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

Ordered, That Peter Worrall have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Two Petitions from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Chester*, praying that this House would provide them with some Arms and Ammunition, and take such other Steps for their Security in this Time of Danger, as to the Wisdom of the House shall seem most proper, was presented to the House and read, and *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

The Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use was read the second time, and referred for Consideration to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House went upon the Consideration of the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, and, after some few Alterations made therein, the same was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from the Governor for sundry public Expences by him paid, amounting with the Balances of his former Accounts, included, to *Five Hundred* and *Forty-nine Pounds Nine Shillings* and *Seven-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, being transcribed, was read the third time, and a Paragraph being inserted therein, by Way of Rider, by Order of the House;

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, and acquaint him that the House desire his Concurrence thereto.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, reported that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House met, and adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto.

The Secretary informed the House, that the Governor recommended to the House the Case of sundry of the Road Cutters living near this City, who were come down from *Cumberland* County without their Pay, or any Certificate of what was due to them, as the Overseer of the Roads was gone to the Camp, and they could not wait till his Return.

The Secretary likewise laid before the House, an Account form *Edward Shippen* Esq; of *Lancaster*, of Money advanced by him to sundry of the Road Cutters, to assist them in their Journey to and from *Cumberland* County.

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, by a Tax on all Estates, Real and Personal, within this Province, *&c.* were read, and considered, and it being observed by the House, that the Governor proposes, in the said Amendments, to exempt the Proprietary Estate from contributing any Thing towards the Sum to be raised for the common Security of the Province.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, Peter Dicks, James Wright, John Wright, John Smith* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor thereupon.

Then the House adjourned for Half an Hour.

The House met, *&c.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed that it may be sent up to the Governor.

An Account from *Daniel Light*, amounting to *Fifteen Pounds*, for his Trouble and Expences in going Express from *Philadelphia* to Fort *Cumberland*, and back again, for Intelligence relating to the Army, was laid before the House, read, allowed, and an Order drawn on the Treasurer for Payment thereof.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE Taxing of the Proprietary Estate with the Estates of the People of the Province, for their common Security in this Time of imminent Danger, seems to us so perfectly equitable and just, that we are surprised the Governor should propose it as an Amendment to our Bill, that the Proprietary Estate be in this Instance exempted.

As the Occasion urges, we are extremely desirous to come as soon as possible to a Conclusion in the Business of this Sitting; and do therefore entreat the Governor would be pleased to acquaint us explicity, whether he is restricted by the Proprietaries from passing the Bill as it stands in that Particular, though it were otherwise consistent with his Judgment, since it will only waste Time to endeavour to convince him of its Reasonableness, if after all it will not obtain his Assent.

Or, if it be possible that such Exemption of the Proprietary Estate from its Share in the common Expence of securing the Whole, should appear to the Governor a Thing right in itself: We would then request him to favour us with the Reasons of his Opinion, that we may take them immediately into Consideration; for till this Matter is explained, and understood, we think it needless to consider any other proposed Alterations."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* and *Derrick Hogeland* wait upon the Governor with the same.

Ordered, That the Committee of Accounts do enquire into the Case of the Road-Cutters, recommended by the Governor, and report to the House what they think necessary to be done therein.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered th same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into Consideration, and return an Answer to the House some Time this Day,

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Letter to the Secretary from *Conrad Weiser* was laid before the House, and read.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know, whether they may expect any Answer this Afternoon to their Message of Yesterday.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that the Secretary would bring down a Message to the House immediately.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"IN Answer to your Message of Yesterday, you will give me Leave to observe, that in the Proprietary Commission appointing me to this Government, there is a Proviso that nothing therein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to give me any Power to do or consent to any Act whereby the Estate or Property of the Proprietaries may be hurt or incumbered: And this Proviso being contained in the Body of the Commission from which I derive the Power of acting as Governor, it is not only the highest Prohibition to me, but any Law that I may pass contrary to that Proviso, I imagine, would be void in itself for want of Power in me to give it a being.

'But had I not been thus prohibited, I should still have thought it my Duty, to have excepted the Proprietary Estate from the Levies proposed to be made, for the following Reasons;

1. For that all Governors, whether hereditary or otherwise, are, from the Nature of their Office, exempt from the Payment of Taxes; on the contrary, Revenues are generally given to them to support the Honour and Dignity of Government, and to enable them to do the Duties of their Station.

'2. For that this Exemption from Taxes arising from the Nature of Government is enforced by a positive Law in this Province, which expressly declares, that the proper Estates of the Proprietaries shall not be liable to Rates or Taxes.

'3. For that the Proprietaries, by their Governor, having consented to a Law for vesting in the People the sole Choice of the Persons to assess and lay Taxes in the several Counties, without reserving to themselves, or their Governor, any Negative upon such Choice, and this Concession being made with an express Proviso, that the Proprietary Estates should not be taxed, it will be very unreasonable to empower such Persons by a Law, without their previous Consent, to tax their Estates at Discretion.

'4. For that it is contrary to the constant Practice and usage in this and all the Proprietary Governments upon this Continent, so far as I have been informed, to lay any Tax upon the Lands or Estates of the Proprietaries, exercising the Government by themselves or their Lieutenants.

'For these Reasons principally I made the Amendments, relating to the Proprietary Estate, to your Bill for giving *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and I hope, Gentlemen, they will be sufficient to induce you to agree to those Amendments.

'Where the Proprietaries now upon the Spot, I know their Love and Affection for this Country to be such, that they would do any Thing in their Power for its Preservation and Safety. But as they are not here, I have, on their Behalf, proposed to give Lands West of the *Allegheny* Mountains, without any Purchase-Money, and free from the Payment of Quitrents for Fifteen Years to come, and then not to exceed the common Quitrents in this Province.—— The particular Quantity proposed as an additional Encouragement for each Officer and Soldier is expressed in a Message to you upon that Head.

Philadelphia, August 6, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the foregoing Message being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, George Ashbridge, James Wright, David M'Con-*

naughy, *John Smith* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of West-Nothingham, in *Chester* County, was presented to the House and read, setting forth the Danger the Petitioners apprehend themselves in since the late Defeat of the *English* Troops, and praying that this House would take such Measures for their Security as shall be judged most necessary.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of *East-Nothingham*, in *Chester* County, of the same Purport with the foregoing, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's last Message, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Committee of Accounts made the following Report in Writing, *viz.*

WE, your Committee, in Pursuance of the Order of the House, have examined the several Labours now attending, who have been employed in clearing the Road through the Western Part of this Province for the King's Service, and the Accounts not being yet come to Hand from the Commissioners appointed by the Governor for the Oversight thereof, are of Opinion, that each of the Labours (whose Names are hereunto annexed) should have the Sum of *Three Pounds* paid them in Part of their Work, until the Accounts come to Hand from the Commissioners; which we submit to the House.

Philadelphia, 8*th*
Mo. 7. 1755.

EVAN MORGAN,
JOSEPH FOX,
JAMES PEMBERTON,
JOSEPH STRETCH,
WILLIAM CALLENDER."

The Labourers Names are as follow, *viz*, *Abraham Rhinchault*, *John Frederick Oder*, *John Pickner*, *Henry Nemyer*, *Henry Christian Dirkhdam*, *Anthony Watter*, *Philip Petercover*, *Andreas Roaths*, *Jacob Matz*, *Godfrey Kniver*, *Paulus Poler*, *John Brightfield*, *John Grist*, *Frederick Motzfield*, *Daniel Shiebley*, *Jerig Auncle*, *John Redcap* and *Michael Christian*.

The foregoing Report being read, and considered, it was agreed to by the House, and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer for the Payment of the Sum of *Fifty-four Pounds* to *Joseph Fox*, a Member of this House, to be by him paid to the said Road-Cutters in the Manner mentioned in the said Report.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have considered the Reasons the Governor has been pleased to give, in his Message of the Sixth Instant, for exempting the Proprietaries Estate in the proposed Tax: And as they do not appear to us sufficient, we beg Leave to offer him our Sentiments thereon in the following Remarks;

The Governor finds in his Commission a Proviso, "That nothing therein contained shall impower him to consent to any Act whereby the Estate of the Proprietaries may be hurt or encumbered;" and this he looks upon as the highest Prohibition to him from passing the Bill proposed. But the Intention of the Bill, may it please the Governor, is not to *hurt* or *encumber*, but to *free from Encumbrance* the Estate of the Proprietaries, which cannot, in our Opinion, have a worse Encumbrance, than the Neighbourhood of so mischievous an Enemy, who, as we have frequently been informed by the Governor, have taken actual Possession of some Part, and lay Claim to a much greater Part of their Country. The Estates of the People are all on this Side of the Mountains; they are as yet neither invaded nor claimed by the *French*. As Representatives of the People we think it as much our bounden Duty to do nothing that may *hurt* or *encumber* the Estates of our Constituents, as the Governor can possibly think it his Duty with regard to the Proprietary Estate; yet we never conceived that giving Part to save the Whole, and not only to save it, but to render it of double or treble Value (which must be the Case with the Proprietary Lands) could properly be called *hurting* or *encumbering* an Estate. And if the Governor really thought that taxing the Estates of the People on this Occasion would be a Hurt to them, and not a Benefit, we imagine he ought, in Duty, to refuse his Assent to that Part of the Bill as well as the other, and for the very same Reason. We for our Parts think differently, and therefore lay the Tax as chearfully on our own Estates as on those of our Constituents. We know their Loyalty to their King and Love to their Country is equal to ours; we do not in the least doubt their Approbation of our Conduct; and we would willingly hope the Governor might, on such an Occasion, as reasonably expect the same Approbation from the Proprietaries.

For there is, may it please the Governor, in the same Proviso of the Proprietary Commission, an absolute Prohibition to the Governor, "to sett, lett, lease out, grant, demise or dispose of any Lands, Tenements, *&c.* or to intermeddle or concern himself therewith, or with any Part of the Property thereof"; yet he is planned to say "he knows the Love and Affection of the Proprietaries for their Country to be such, that if they were on the Spot, they would do any Thing in their Power for its Preservation and Safety; and therefore he, on their Behalf, proposes to give Lands West of the *Allegheny* Mountains without any Purchase-Money, and free from the Payment of Quitrents for Fifteen Years to come." It cannot but seem strange to us, that a Tax on Part of an Estate for Two Years should be thought to hurt it, more than giving Six or Seven Hundred Thousand Acres of it away; or that the Governor, notwithstanding so express a Prohibition, should think himself more at Liberty in this Case than in the other. If the Proprietaries will approve in the latter Case, why not in the former? And if the Grant of Lands, contrary to such Prohibition, would be valid, why not the Passing of the Bill for a Tax? These are Questions that we cannot solve, without a more particular Consideration of the proposed Grant of Lands West of the *Allegheny* Mountains, than we should have thought necessary, if it had not been repeatedly mentioned to us by the Governor, apparently with a View to make the Taxing of the Proprietary Estate, on this Occasion appear less reasonable. We are sorry therefore that we are obliged to observe that the Proposal is made in such Terms as that it may be fully complied with, and yet nothing in Reality be granted. First, because Lands West of the *Allegheny* Mountains differ greatly in their Quality, and though some are exceeding good, there are many Hundred Thousand Acres that are not worth accepting; and *good Land* is not so much as mentioned in the Proposal. Secondly, because the best Lands there, are not better than Lands in *Virginia* in the same Neighbourhood, which may be had without Purchase-Money, at *Two Shillings* Sterlng Quitrent, and none to be paid for Fifteen Years. But the common Quitrent in this Province is *Four Shillings* and *Two-pence*

Sterling. And therefore an Offer even of the best Lands in those Parts on that Quitrent would be neither more nor less than this, That for the Encouragement of such as shall, with the Hazard of their Lives, recover the Proprietaries Country from the Enemy, he will graciously sell them a Part of the Lands so recovered, at twice the Price demanded by his Neighbour. An Offer on the Proprietary's Behalf, that may indeed be safely made, notwithstanding his Prohibition, and without the least Danger of offending him. If the Proprietary, to encourage the Settlement of the Western Frontier of his Province, and to form a Barrier for the rest, will *bona Fide*, grant *good Lands* on reasonable Terms, we doubt not but the Assembly will give other equivalent Encouragements to the Settlers, in Provisions, Carriages, Utensils of Husbandry, Cattle, and the like; but the Governor's Power to make such Grants in their Behalf, at present not appearing to us, we must leave that Matter to future Consideration.

We are however clear, that the Governor has *full Power* to pass the Bill in Question, any Prohibition, were it ever so express from the Proprietaries, notwithstanding. First, because no Prohibition of the Proprietaries can lessen or take away from the Lieutenant-Governor any Power such Lieutenant is vested with by the Royal Charter. Secondly, for that in the Royal Charter, Section IV. the King, for himself, his Heirs and Successors, hath "granted free, full and absolute Power," (not only to the Proprietary and his Heirs, but) "to his and their *Deputies* and *Lieutenants*, for the good and happy Government of the said Country, to *ordain*, make and *enact*, and under his and their Seals to publish, *any Laws whatsoever*, for the *Raising of Money* for public Uses, or for any End appertaining unto the public State, *Peace* or *Safety* of the said Country, according unto *their best Discretion*, by and with the Advice, Assent and Approbation of the Freemen of the said Country, their Delegates or Deputies." And thirdly, because any Prohibition from the Proprietaries, restraining the Legislative Powers granted by the Royal Charter, is so far from being able to render void a Law made notwithstanding such Prohibition, that the Prohibition is in itself void, and a mere Nullity. This is not only consistent with plain Reason, but has been solemnly considered and determined in the former Proprietary's own Council, his Son and Heir, his faithful Secretary, the learned Judge *Mompesson*, and several others, distinguished for their Abilities, being both present and concurring, as will, we suppose, appear on their Minutes, of which we beg Leave to give the following extract;

The Clause in Colonel *Evan's* Commission, viz. "Saving always to me and my Heirs, our final Assent to all such Bills as thou shalt pass into Laws, in the said Government" *&c.*

"In Answer to a Message from the Assembly, requesting the Council to give their Opinion in Writing under their Hands, concerning the *Saving* or Exception in the Proprietary WILLIAM PENN'S Commission to the present Lieutenant-Governor, *to wit*, whether the said Saving is void in itself.—— And whether those Bills which the present Lieutenant-Governor shall think fit to pass into Laws, and cause the said Proprietary's Great Seal to be affixed thereunto, can afterwards be vacated or annulled by the said Proprietary, without the Assent of the Assembly of this Province?

"We of the Council, whose Names are hereunto subscribed, are of Opinion, that the said *Saving is void in itself;* and that those Bills which the present Lieutenant-Governor shall think fit to pass into Laws, and cause the said Proprietary's Great Seal to be affixed thereunto, *cannot afterwards be vacated* or annulled by the Proprietary, without Assent of the Assembly of this Province."

WILLIAM PENN, junior,	GRIFFITH OWEN,
ROGER MOMPESSON,	CALEB PUSEY,
EDWARD SHIPPEN,	WILLIAM TRENT,
JOHN GUEST,	RICHARD HILL,
WILLIAM CLARK,	JAMES LOGAN."

Having thus, we hope, effectually removed the Governor's greatest Objection to the Passing of our Bill, we may be shorter in our Observations on the four other Reasons he is pleased to give us.

To the first we shall only say, that we do not propose to tax the Proprietary' as Governor, but as a Fellow-Subject, a Landholder and Possessor of an Estate in *Pennsylvania;* an Estate that will be more benefited by a proper Application of the Tax, than any other Estate in the Province. The Proprietary, may it please the Governor, does *not* govern us. The Province supports a Lieutenant to do that Duty for him, by a large Revenue arising from Licences, and other Fees and Perquisites. But if the Proprietary actually governed us, and had a Support allowed him on that Account, we should not therefore think it less reasonable to tax him as a Landholder, for the Security of that Land. The Representatives of the People have also some Support as a Part of the Government, by the Wages they are allowed for their Service in Assembly; would the Governor think this a good

Reason, that as Owners of Estates they should be exempt from Taxes? Can the Proprietary, as Governor, have, from the Nature of his Office, more of this pretended Right of Exemption from Taxes than the King himself? Are not the Tenants of King's Lands (who by every Land Tax Act of Parliament are to pay the Poundage) impowered to deduct the same out of their Rent. And are not the Receivers of his Majesty's Rents obliged, under severe Penalties, to allow of such Deduction? But this is not the first Instance by many, in which Proprietors and Governors of petty Colonies have assumed to themselves greater Powers, Privileges, Immunities, and Prerogatives, than were ever claimed by their Royal Master on the Imperial Throne of all his extensive Dominions.

On the second it may be sufficient to observe, that the positive Law of this Province, hinted at by the Governor as exempting the Proprietaries Estates from Taxes, is no other than the Law for raising County Rates and Levies, which are in the same Act appropriated to Purposes for which the Proprietaries could not reasonably be charged; such as the Payment of Assemblymen's Wages, and of the Rewards for killing of Wolves, Crows, Foxes, with other Matters more immediately for the People's Benefit; it is no, as the Governor would insinuate, a general constitutional Law of the Province, made to enforce a natural Right, but is confined to County Affairs, and has no Relation to Provincial Taxes, especially to such as are intended for the Benefit and Advantage of the Proprietary Estate more than of any other Estate in the Province; which will be evident to the Governor, on his perusing it with the smallest Degree of Attention. 'Tis true, it is, as the Governor calls it, *a postive Law*, so far as it extends; but to apply it to the present Case, seems inconsistent with both Equity and Reason. We have likewise a *positive Law*, that the People's Representatives shall dispose of the People's Money, and this seems to us consistent generally with Reason and natural Right; but does the Governor think, that because it is a positive Law, it ought to be extended to all Cases in Government? If so, we humbly conceive he would have proposed some other Amendments to the Bill, and different from those he has thought fit to send us: For we, considering the Intention of the Grant, have allowed him a Share in the Disposition of the *Fifty Thousand Pounds;* and he proposes, by his last Amendment, to have a Share likewise in the Disposition of the Overplus, if any.

On the third Reason, we would only beg Leave to ask, Whether, supposing the Proprietary Estate to be taxed, it would be equitable that he should have a Negative in the Choice of the Assessors; since that would give him, Half the Choice, though he were to pay perhaps not a Hundredth Part of the Tax? In our Estimation, and we think we are not mistaken, he may have Friends, Officers and other Dependants enough in every County, to vote as much in his Behalf, or more, than his Share of the Tax can possibly amount to. But if the Proprietary shrinks at the Injustice of being taxed, where he has no Choice in the Assessors, with what Face of Justice can he desire and insist on having Half the Power of disposing of the Money levied, to which he would contribute not a single Farthing? By the Words the Governor chuses to express the Power of the Assessors, *viz.* "Taxing the Proprietaries Estate *at Discretion*," one would think their Power unlimited, and the Proprietary left at their Mercy; but in the Valuation of Estates, they are confined by the Bill within certain moderate Bounds, are enjoined, and sworn, or solemnly affirmed, "to assess themselves, and all others, equally and impartially, and to spare no Person for Favour or Affection, nor grieve any for Hatred or Ill-will;" which we think gives the Proprietary as good Security for Equity and Justice as any Subject in the King's Dominions.

As to the Governor's fourth Reason, deduced from the Useage in this and the other Proprietary Governments, we think Usage and Custom, against Reason and Justice, ought to have but little Weight. But though it may have been the Usage in this Government, and perhaps in others, to exempt the Proprietary Estate from Taxes in Cases where their Estates could not by the Application of such Taxes be any way benefited, that Usage, can, as we conceive, have no Relation to the present Case, which, as we have shewn, is of a widely different Nature. Nor, if the Governor's Rule from Usage could be allowed, *viz. That the Lands or Estates of Proprietaries, exercising Government by themselves of their Lieutenants, ought to be exempt from Taxes*, would it operate in Favour of the Estates of the Proprietaries who not only do not exercise Government by themselves, but would restrain their Lieutenants in the Exercise of the just Powers they are vested with by the Royal Charter.

On the Whole, we beg the Governor would again calmly and seriously consider our Bill, to which End we once more send it up to him. We know that without his Assent the Money cannot be raised, nor the good Ends so earnestly desired and expected from it be obtained, and we fear his Resolution to refuse it. But we entreat him to reflect with what Reluctance a People born and bred in Freedom, and accustomed to equitable Laws, must undergo the Weight of this uncommon Tax, and even expose their Persons for the Defence of *his* Estate, who by Virtue of his Power only, and without even a Colour of Right, should refuse to bear the least Share of the Burthen, though to receive so great a Benefit! With what Spirit can they exert themselves in his Cause, who will not pay the smallest Part of their grievous Expences? How odious must it be to a sensible manly People, to find *him*, who ought to be their Father and Protector, taking Advantage of Public Calamity and Distress, and their Tenderness for their bleeding Country, to force down their Throats Laws of Imposition, abhorrent to common Justice and common Reason! Why will the Governor make himself the hateful Instrument of reducing a free People to the abject State of Vassalage;—— of depriving us of those Liberties, which have given Reputation to our Country throughout the world, and drawn Inhabitants from the remotest Parts of *Europe* to enjoy them? Liberties not only granted us of Favour, but of Right; Liberties which in Effect we have bought and paid for, since we have not only performed the Conditions on which they were granted, but have actually given higher Prices of our Lands on their Account; that the Proprietary Family have been doubly paid for them, in the Value of the Lands, and in the Increase of Rents with Increase of People: Let not our Affections be torn in this Manner from a Family we have long loved and honoured! Let that novel Doctrine, hatched by their mistaken Friends, "that Privileges granted to promote the Settlement of a Country, are to be abridged when the Settlement is obtained, "iniquitous as it is, be detested as it deserves, and banished from all our public Councils; and let the Harmony, so essential to the Welfare of both Governors and Governed, be once again restored; since it can never be more necessary to our Affairs, then in their present melancholy Situation.—— We hope the Governor will excuse some Appearance of Warmth, in a Cause of all others in the World the most interesting, and believe us to be, with all possible Respect and Duty to the Proprietary Family and to himself, his and their sincere Friends and Well-wishers."

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon Governor and deliver the same, together with the Bill *for raising* Fifty Thousand Pounds *for the King's Use, by a Tax* *of* Twelve-pence per *Pound, and* Twenty Shillings per *Head, yearly, for two Years, on all the Estates, real and personal, and Taxables, within this Province;* and acquaint him, that the House being anxious to get through the Business before them as soon as possible, desire that he would be pleased to let them know his Result on the said Bill as soon as conveniently he can.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, report, that they had delivered the *Fifty Thousand Pound* Bill, and the Message of the House, according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he thought it his Duty to give the Public Business all the Dispatch in his Power.

The verbal Message from the Governor of the Twenty-eighth of last Month, was again read, and considered, and the House being informed that *Conrad Weiser* was now attending, he was called in, and interrogated concerning the Letter sent by himself, and other of the Justices in *Berks* County, to the Governor, relating to the *Roman Catholicks* in that County; and then was directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* and *Nathaniel Pennock* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House have this Afternoon examined *Conrad Weiser*, and some of our Members have had an Opportunity of speaking with another of the Justices of *Berks* County, who signed the Letter, representing the State of the *Roman Catholicks* in that Neighbourhood; from which, and what further Enquiry we have made, we apprehend there is very little Foundation for that Representation; Nevertheless, if the Governor, upon further information, should find any Assistance of ours necessary, we shall always be willing to contribute what lies in our Power for the Public Tranquility; and in the mean Time we request his Care to do therein what he shall think necessary and right, consistent with the Charters and Laws of this Province, and the Safety of the People.

The House taking into Consideration the Resolve of the House at their last Sitting, relating to the Maintenance of the Women belonging to the Army under the Command of General *Braddock*,

Resolved, That the Overseers of the Poor of the City of *Philadelphia*, who undertook to provide for the said Women, be directed to discharge such of them as are capable of getting their own Living; and that this House will continue to allow such reasonable Charges as the said Overseers may be put to in providing for those of the said Women who are now lying in, or near it, or are otherwise rendered incapable of getting their Liveihood, until the next Sitting of Assembly.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

A Letter to the Governor from the Commissioners for cutting the Road towards the *Ohio*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Sundry Accounts from *Conrad Weiser*, for *Indian* Expences by him paid, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'YOUR long Message of Yesterday is now under my Consideration, and I shall give you an Answer to it as soon as I have fully weighed the several Parts of it. But in the mean Time I think it my Duty to remind you, that this Province is still without a Militia, or the necessary Means of Defence, though the present Situation of our Affairs makes this more than ever necessary, as the Troops that his Majesty sent for the Protection of these Provinces have been defeated, and the *French* have now in *America* a large Body of regular Forces, without Doubt to carry into Execution the Plan they have long since formed of subjecting this Continent to their Dominion. And the Inhabitants from several Counties having by Petition represented to me the Dangers to which they stand exposed, and declared themselves willing and desirous to defend themselves, I do therefore, in his Majesty's Name, call upon you Gentlemen, to put this Province into a Posture of Defence by establishing a Militia, (in doing which you will have a due Regard to scrupulous Consciences) that this plentiful Country, situate in the Middle of the *British* Colonies may no longer remain open to the Enemies, and thereby put it in their Power to make themselves Masters of the whole Continent.

'As I have frequently recommended this Matter to you, and have had no Answer from you, I must now desire you will give me an explicit Answer upon the Subject.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 9, 1755.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Account of *Robert Thompson*, Esq; of *Lancaster*, for Cash paid by him for Horse-hire for Expresses, and were of Opinion, the same ought to be allowed; to which Report the House agreed, and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met according to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

COLONEL *Dunbar*, the now Commander of his Majesty's Forces to the Westward, by Letter of the Sixteenth of *July*, notified to me his Intention to march those Troops to this City, desiring me to provide Quarters for One Hundred Officers, and Twelve Hundred Men, and on the First Instant informed me, that he should begin his March from Fort *Cumberland* the next Day; and hoped every Thing would be ready here for the Reception of the Troops.—— As it was quite uncertain what Effect my Letters to Colonel *Dunbar*, to post his Troops on the Western Frontiers, would have, I wrote to the Mayor and Corporation of this City to provide the Quarters for the Men and Officers mentioned in the Colonel's Letter; to which they have answered, that they know of no Law that authorised them to provide Quarters for those Troops, and therefore have it not in their Power to comply with the Directions I had given.—— As these Troops are marching into this Province, and whether they come quite to this City or not, there will be a Necessity of providing proper Quarters for them, and the Officers that command them, I must recommend it to you, by a Law, to enable the Magistrates to quarter such of his Majesty's Officers and Soldiers as may march through, or be posted in, any of the Counties or Districts within this Province.

'This will prevent all Contests between the civil and Military Officers, between the Soldiers and People, and be a great Means of preserving the internal Peace of the Province.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 11, 1755.

A Copy of the Answer of the Mayor and Corporation of the City of *Philadelphia*, mentioned in the foregoing Message, was also laid before the House, and read.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan, Benjamin Franklin, Griffith Owen, Thomas Cummings, Calvin Cooper, David M'Connaughy* and *John Smith* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Bill for providing Quarters for such of his Majesty's Officers and Soldiers as may arrive in this Province.

A Petition from sundry of the Road-Cutters, relating to their Accounts, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I AM importuned by the *Indians*, to let them know what it is this Government has to impart to them, If they can be made hearty for us, they may prevent a great Deal of Mischief, engage other *Indians* in our Favour, and be prepared for any other Service that we may think proper to employ them in. To do this, will require great Skill and an open Hand, for Presents they certainly expect, and will not at this Time be satisfied with small Ones.

'The *Owendaets* came on our Invitation, and such Terms must therefore be offered them as will effectually engage their Friendship: The Matter cannot now be minced neither with them nor the other Nations. You will therefore please to consider this Matter well, and give me your Sentiments and Counsel in this nice and critical Situation of our Affairs.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 12, 1755.

The verbal Message from the Governor of the Twentieth of *December last*, concerning *Scaroyady's* Son-in-Law's returning to *Ohio*, &c. was also read.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton, William Callender, Joseph Hamton, Nathaniel Grubb, James Wright, John Smith* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's last Message, and report the same to the House.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the several Accounts of *Conrad Weiser*, referred to them, and found the Sum of *One Hundred* and *Thirty-five Pounds Six Shillings* and *One Penny* due to the said *Weiser*.

The Committee of Accounts likewise made the following Report in Writing, *viz.*

YOUR Committee have, with great Attention, considered the Letter of the Fifth Instant, from the Commissioners appointed by the Governor to have the Oversight of cutting the Road through the Western Parts of this Province for the King's Service, and are of Opinion, that the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, desired by them to be sent up for the said Service, is a very extravagent Demand, especially as several large Sum have already been advanced for that Service; and that we are informed, there it but Sixty-five Miles of said Road cut, which will make the Charge near *One Hundred Pounds per* Mile, In order to prevent Imposition on the Public, we do report, that the said Commissioners should forthwith attend the Committee of Accounts, at *Philadelphia*, with their Accounts fairly stated, and proper Vouchers for the same, in order to be adjusted;—— or that the House should appoint some proper Persons to attend the Settling the Accounts at *Lancaster* or *Carlisle*, with Directions from the House for that Purpose. All which we submit to the House.

JOSEPH FOX,
WILLIAM CALLENDER,
Eighth Month 12, 1755. EVAN MORGAN,
JOSEPH STRETCH."

A Bill for extending so much of an Act of Parliament, entituled, *An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion; and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters*, passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the present Reign, as relates to the Quartering and Billeting of Soldiers, and Payment of their Quarters in that Part of *Great-Britain* called *England*, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of this Morning, reported the same to the House; and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE Secretary, by a verbal Message from the Governor on the Twentieth of *December* last, acquainted the House, "that *Scaroyady's* Son-in-Law was charged with a Message from the *Owendaets* to enquire what their Brethren the *English* designed to do in Regard to the late Encroachments of the *French;* and having heard since he came to Town that the King of *England* intended to send over a Number of Troops to assist in repelling those Invaders, he was willing, if the Governor thought proper, to return to his Nation, and acquaint them with the joyful News: The Governor therefore desired the Opinion of the House whether it would be most advisable for *Scaroyady's* Son-in-Law to return now to *Ohio*, or go to *Onondago* with *Scaroyady.*" Whereupon the House gave for Answer, that it was their Opinion that it would be most proper for *Scaroyady's* Son-in-Law to return to the *Ohio* as as conveniently he could. This is all the Part our House have had in Relation to the *Owendaets;* neither did we know of the least Intention of inviting them, or any others; so that as they are now come down without our Knowledge or Request, entirely upon the Governor's Invitation, it is some Surprise to us to find the *Indians* should have Reason to importune him, or that he should be at any Loss to know what it is he has to impart to them on this Occasion.

Our Conduct towards the *Indians* in our Alliance has been always candid, and free from any Subterfuge whatever, so that we do not understand what the Governor would mean by telling us "that the Matter cannot be now minced, neither with them nor the other Nations." And we are likewise at a Loss to conceive why they should expect great Presents from us who are wholly ignorant of the Intention of their coming.

The Governor has been pleased to refuse his Assent to our Bills which had provided for *Indian* and other Expences, and as our Treasury is exhausted by the very heavy Charges for the King's Service, these *Indians* are come among us at a very unfortunate Time, when it is not in our Power to supply them in the Manner we are inclined to do; however we will do all that can be reasonably expected from us, and must leave the rest to be supplied by the Proprietaries, whose Interest is at least as much concerned as ours in engaging the Affections of the *Indians* at this Time."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph James* and *Moses Starr* wait upon the Governor with the same.

The Bill for extending so much of an Act of Parliament, entituled, *An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters*, passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the present Reign, as relates to the Quartering and Billeting of Soldiers, and Payment of their Quarters in that Part of *Great-Britain* called *England*, was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for extending so much of an Act*, entituled, *An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters*, passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the present Reign, as relates to the Quartering and Billeting of Soldiers, and Payment of their Quarters in that Part of *Great-Britain* called *England*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Jonathan Ingham* and *Peter Worral* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'WHEN I amended and sent down to you the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, I expected you would have returned it to me with the Amendments, and informed me which of them you agreed to, this being the common and ordinary Method in such Cases; but you departed from this, and desire to know whether I was restrained by the Proprietaries from taxing their Estate, and the Reasons for my Opinion as to that Measure; and though this Application was unparliamentary, and I believe unprecedented, yet upon this Occasion I indulged you therein, and gave my

Reasons in the mildest Terms, on which, however you have been pleased to treat both the Proprietaries and myself in a very unbecoming Manner.

'As you have returned me the Bill without the Amendments, and in your Message that accompanied it, offer no Reasons against any of them but such as relate to taxing the Proprietary Estate, I conclude you have agreed to the others; I shall therefore consider the several Parts of your Message, and make such Observations upon, and Answer to it, as I think it merits.

'Having told you, that I had no Power by my Commission to hurt or incumber the Proprietary Estate, you take Occasion in your Answer, to play with the Words *hurt and encumber*, and having viewed them in different Lights, tell me, "that your Bill is intended to free the Proprietary Estate from *Hurt* and *Encumbrance*, by removing the *French*, and that you are as much bound not to hurt or encumber the Estates of your Constituents, as I am with Respect to the Proprietary Estate;" and having shewn, as you think, that the Proviso in my Commission does not prohibit me in the present Case; you then proceed to reason upon the Clause itself, and after producing a very good Opinion of a former Council, Judge, and Secretary, as to a particular Saving in the late Proprietary Commission, you very roundly pronounce the Proviso to be a Nullity, and not at all binding on me.

'You must give me Leave to differ from you in Opinion as to the Force of the Words in that Clause, which, notwithstanding what you have said, have still the same plain and determinate Meaning they had before, every Tax, in my Mind, being an Encumbrance upon an Estate, from which it cannot be cleared but by the Payment of a certain Sum of Money; and I being expressly restrained by my Commission from consenting to any Act that may encumber the Proprietary Estate, every unprejudiced Person will see clearly that my Powers do not extend to the present Case, and that if I acceded to your Opinion, I should be guilty of a manifest Breach of Trust.

'As to the Validity of prohibitory Clauses in the Proprietary Commissions, I am not fortunate enough to comprehend the force of your Reasonings upon this Head, which are drawn from the Fourth Section of the Royal Charter; for though by that Charter Power is given to the Proprietaries, their Deputies and Lieutenants, to make Laws, yet it does not alter the Relation which by Law subsists between a Principal and his Deputy, the Intention of the Charter in that Particular, being no other than to impower Mr. PENN, and his Heirs, to administer the Government by his and their Lieutenant or Deputy, which being a judicial Office, he could not otherwise have done; and so far is the charter, by its general Tenor, from making the Deputy equal to, or independent of, the Principal, that it makes the Proprietaries alone civilly answerable for what is done in the Province, whether by themselves or their Lieutenants, which would be unjust if the Lieutenant by the Charter was equal in Power, independent of, and uncontroulable by, the person that appoints and is answerable for his Behaviour, Though I allow the Opinion produced to be good, as to the Point then under Consideration, yet it is not applicable to all Cases, which your Arguments, without any Foundation, suppose: and in the present One there is a wide Difference, obvious to every one who considers them both with the least Degree of Attention; because that Saving was even reserving a Power to the Proprietary in his own Person to repeal a Law which he by his Lieutenant had consented to; whereas. in the present Case, the Restriction amounts to nothing more than a reasonable Prohibition upon their Governors, as such, from passing Laws to injure their Estates.

I cannot help observing, that you formerly used these same Arguments against the Validity of Royal Instructions, and using them now to destroy the Force of Proprietary Prohibitions, you would, it should seem, be willing that the Lieutenant Governor should be independent of every Body but yourselves.

You say, "That the same Proviso restrains me from letting or selling the Proprietary Lands, and yet I propose to give away Six or Seven Hundred Thousand Acres upon the present Occasion; and seem vastly surprized, that I should think myself restrained from incumbering the Proprietary Lands by Act of Assembly, and yet at Liberty to give them away; for if, say you, the Grant of Lands, contrary to such Prohibition, would be valid, why not the Passing the Bill for a Tax?" And this you call a Question you cannot solve. It is something very extraordinary, that the Representative Body of *Pennsylvania* should know so little of the Affairs of the Province, as never to have been informed, that that the Governor grants the Proprietary Lands under a certain Power of Attorney, regularly proved and recorded, called a Commission of Property. That this Power was formerly vested in private Persons; but for some Years past, has been given to the Governors; and, being the Foundation of Property, cannot be unknown to any the least acquainted with the Circumstances of the Province. And to ask a Question or two in my Turn, how could you think the Lands in the Province were granted under the Powers of a Commission that expressly prohibits the Granting of any? Or that the People would be so weak as to give Money for Lands, and take Titles under such a defective Power? As to the Proposal itself, it was made with a good Intention; and as I am accountable to the Proprietaries for my Conduct under that Commission of Property, you may be assured I did not make it without proper Power to carry it into Execution; and had you raised Money for an Expedition to the Westward, and for encouraging Settlers, I should then have made an Offer of the Lands by Proclamation, letting the Adventurers know, that they were to have the Choice of the Lands in Preference to all others, with every Thing else that could reduce the Offer to a Certainty; which there was no Necessity of doing in a Message to you, barely mentioning the Thing, and recommending to you to grant an Aid to those that should become Settlers after the *French* were removed.

But whatever comes from the Proprietaries, however just, however favourable, must be wrong, and accordingly you are determined to represent in that Light a Proposal generous in itself, and intended to promote the Public Service and Safety; which may serve to shew the Temper of Mind you are in, but can answer no good Purpose. You say, Lands equally good may be had in *Virginia* for *Two Shillings* Sterling Quitrent, and none to be paid in Fifteen Years: It may be so; but how does it appear they are equally good? It is plain they are not equally convenient, because of their greater Distance from a Market. The Quitrent in *Virginia*, I suppose, was the same formerly that it is now, and yet very great Numbers have chosen to purchase Lands in this Province of the Proprietaries at the Rate of *Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent*, and of private Men at a much higher Price, and in both Cases under the Quit-rent of *Four Shillings* and *Two-pence* Sterling, when they might have had them in *Virginia* for much less; and the Proposal ought not to be considered by comparing it with other Provinces, but with the Rate that Lands have, for a Number of years past, been sold at in this Province; some of them lately in the new Purchase within a few Miles of the *Allegheny* Mountains, and others very remote without any Road of Communication with this City, which is not the Case as to the Lands proposed to be given, there being a very good Waggon Road thither: And notwithstanding what you have said upon this Head, I am convinced, that if you had enabled me, in Conjunction with the neighbouring Governments, to have sent a Body of Troops into that Country, an Offer of Lands, upon the Terms above-mentioned, would have had very good Effects, and would have induced many to have gone and become Settlers there, that would not otherwise have thought of doing either, and by that Means have formed a Barrier for the Protection and Security of the Province; and therefore I cannot but be astonished, that you should have taken so much Pains to depreciate it.

And now having effectually removed in your Judgment my greatest Objection to passing your Bill, you proceed to consider my Reasons in their Order. And to the First, that Governors, from the Nature of their Offices, are exempt from the Payment of Taxes. You take a very nice Distinction between the Proprietary as Owner of Land, and the Proprietary as Chief Governor, and say, "you do not tax him as Governor, but as Land-holder, and Fellow-Subject:" Though this is a Distinction that has no Existence in Law or Reason, yet I shall for the present admit it, and consider it accordingly. Have the Proprietaries a Right to vote in the Election of Representatives as Land-holders? surely not, being hereditary Governors of the Province, and having a Voice in the Legislature by their own particular Representative the Governor. How then came you by a Right to tax them as Fellow-Subjects and Land-holders, seeing they had no Voice in chusing you, nor were entitled to any, though Owners of Land in every County? From the very Principles therefore of the *English* Constitution, you have no Right to tax them as Freeholders or Fellow-Subjects, as you call them: If, therefore, you tax them at all, it must be as Proprietaries and Chief Governors, which is the only Capacity by which they are connected with, or related to, the Inhabitants of this Province; and under them, in that Capacity, you derive the Power of acting as an Assembly. You cannot therefore, without inverting the Order of Things, have a Power over those from whom you and every one else in the Province derive all the Power they have. They hold the Government and Soil of this Province under the same Grant, and the Title to both is centered in their Persons, and cannot be separate or divided without destroying their Authority. It may be very true, as you say, "that the Proprietaries do not *govern you*;" but that is not owing to any Want of legal Authority in them, but from another Cause that I need not mention here.

The Support, as you call it, that is paid by the Province to a Lieutenant Governor, is no other than the Fees of Office, and as such are due to any One that administers the Government, and are not, what you would insinuate, given to the Lieutenant for doing the Duty of the Principal: the chief of them are Public-house Licenses, which were originally granted by Charter, not by any Concession of the People (though you from Time to Time have taken it for granted to be so) and in Favour to them, as former Governors took much larger Sums for this Service, moderate Fees have been consented to be fixed by Law, as Considerations for the Business done, not as sufficient for the Support of Government; all the Fees and Perquisites whereof do not amount, *communibus Annis*, to more than a *Thousand Pounds.*

As to the Land-tax Acts of Parliament you refer to, they may be, as you say, with respect to the Crown's Fee Farm-Rents. But I do not conceive they amount to a Proof that the King pays Taxes, all Taxes whatever being paid to him; and there seems to me an Inconsistency in supposing he can both pay and receive. I take the Clause you mention to have no other Meaning than to appropriate Part of the Revenues of the Crown to one public Use, which were before appropriated to another: For I must observe to you, that the King can have no private Estate, but from the Dignity of his Office holds his Lands in Right of the Crown. And another Reason why a Poundage is collected upon the Crown's Fee Farm Rents may be, that the Land-tax should not fall heavier upon the other Lands in the same Hundreds or Districts, as the Quotas of each were long ago settled as they now stand in the King's Books, and cannot, without Confusion, be altered upon the Crown's acquiring Lands in any of them.

And upon this you break out into a lofty Exclamation, that "this is not the first Instance by many in which the Proprietaries and Governors of petty Colonies have assumed to themselves greater Powers, Privileges, Immunities and Prerogatives, than were ever claimed by their Royal Master on the Imperial Throne of all his Extensive Dominions." I must acknowledge, Gentlemen, that these are sounding Words; but what Instances among the many can you give of that assuming Behaviour in your present Proprietaries? Have they ever claimed any Rights or Prerogatives not granted to them by the Royal Charter, or reserved by that of their Father, under which you sit? Can you lay to their Charge, during the Course of a long Administration over you, one Act of Injustice or Severity? Have they even exercised all those Powers which by the Royal Charter they might legally do, and to which that Charter requires the People to be obedient? On the contrary, have they not given up to the People many Things they had a Right to insist on, and indulged them in every Thing that they judged for their Benefit? How just is it therefore, Gentlemen, to accuse them of assuming Powers and Prerogatives greater than their Royal Master? Would you turn your Eyes towards your own Conduct, and apply some of these significant Words to yourselves, you would find them much more applicable than they are to the Proprietaries. The Charter under which you act, gives you the Powers and Privileges of an Assembly, according to the Rights of the Free-born Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*. This, Gentlemen, is the Foundation of your Powers, which, by the Royal Charter, were to be consonant to the Laws and Constitution of *England*. But instead of confining yourselves to that which your wise Ancestors thought fully sufficient to answer the Ends of good Government, and secure the Liberties of the People, you have taken upon you great and mighty Powers, dispensed with positive Laws by the Strength of your own Orders, claim a Right to dispose of all public Money, and of keeping your Proceedings a Secret from the Crown, with many others unknown to an *English* Constitution, and never heard of in the other Plantations in *America*. Who therefore can be so justly accused as yourselves of assuming unwarrantable Powers, greater than ever were claimed by a *British* House of Parliament, or, to use your own Words, "by your Royal Master on the Imperial Throne of all his extensive Dominions," who pretends to no Powers but what the Constitution gives him, and disclaims a Right of dispensing with Laws.

To these Encroachments on the Constitution you give the sacred Name of Privilege, and under the Mask of Zeal for the Public, conceal your own Schemes, pretending they are all for the Benefit of the People, when they can answer no Purpose but to encrease your own Power, and endanger the just Rights that the People enjoy under the Royal and Proprietary Charters, by making it necessary for his Majesty and a *British* Parliament to interpose their Authority to save the Province. The People have no Way so effectually to secure themselves in the Enjoyment of their Liberty, as strictly adhering to the Constitution established by Charter, making that the Foundation and Standard of their Proceedings, and discountenancing every Deviation from it.

The second and third Reasons give by me, and your Answers to them being deduced from the Law for raising County Rates and Levies, I shall consider them together.

I do not see why the Proprietary Estate in each County is not benefited in common with other Estates, and by the same Means. The Proviso therefore, relating to their Estates, was not inserted because he had no Benefit by the Money raised; but was properly a Condition, upon which his Governor consented to vest the whole Power of chusing the Tax Officers in the People, and is declarative of the Rights of his Station, of which the People in general might be ignorant.

I think with you, that the Proprietary Tax would not be more than an Hundredth Part of the Whole, but cannot therefore admit, that if he is taxed, he should be excluded from any Voice in the Choice of those impowered to tax him, or that the Votes of his Officers, in their own Rights, can make the Assessors his Representatives; nor can I easily conceive, that a Negative upon a Choice is Half the Choice, or indeed any Part of it; but as what you say upon this Head has very little argumentative Force, I shall not dwell upon it, but say something as to the Law itself.

From the Tenor of the Act it appears to me to be intended, not only for laying and raising Taxes to defray the necessary Charges in every County, but to settle the Mode of raising Money upon all Occasions; it directs the Manner of chusing Commissioners, Assessors, Collectors and Treasurers, gives them particular Powers, and regulates the Conduct of those entrusted with the Laying and Receiving Taxes. It is a positive and perpetual Law, and by a special Proviso expressly declares the Proprietary Estate not liable to Taxes. You yourselves apply it to a Provincial Purpose by the Bill under Consideration, and the apparent Reason why it was never applied to that Purpose before is, that no Provincial Tax has ever been laid since the Enacting of that Law.

You are certainly empowered by some temporary Laws to dispose of particular Monies raised by those Laws, when they come into the public Offices, and I do not know that this Power has been disputed; the Legislature that gave those Laws a Being, had a Right to pass them in that Shape, and a future Legislature may do the same, if they think fit; but I do not conceive that you have from those Laws a Right to dispose of all Money that shall be raised, that being no Part of the Charter, but must depend upon the Legislature that raises it, who may reserve the Disposition to themselves, give it to you, or any Body else they think fit.

And here I cannot help taking Notice of an Expression in your Message, that you have allowed me a Share in the Disposition of the *Fifty Thousand Pounds.* Is it from you, Gentlemen, that I derive the Right of governing this Province, or from your Allowance that I have a Voice in the Legislature? Are you the Sovereign Disposers of Power? Have you a Right to give and take away at Pleasure? If not, whence that lofty Claim of allowing your Governor a Share in the Disposition of public Money? Is not the whole Property of the People subject to the Power of the Legislature; and have I not a Voice in that Legislature, not derived from, or dependant upon, you; and how came you therefore by a Right to allow me a Share in the Disposition of Money, which cannot be raised without my Consent? Such Language may possibly be agreeable to your Notions of your own superlative Powers, but is not justified by the Constitution established by Charter, or any Rights properly belonging to an Assembly; and your claiming such a Power, shews the Extensiveness of your Plan, which is no less in that Respect, than to render yourselves independent, and assume a Superiority over your Proprietaries and Governors; a Plan you would not fail to carry into Execution, were your Power equal to your Inclinations.

The Proprietaries do not shrink, as you call it, at the Payment of a small Sum of Money, nor is that the Motive for insisting on their Right, they having by me offered much more than their Proportion of this Tax can possibly amount to; but to preserve the Rights of their Station, which if they give up whenever they are demanded, as Claims will never be wanting, they will very soon be stripped of every Thing they have a Right to enjoy, both Power and Property.

Your Answer to my fourth Reason admits, that taxing the Estates of Proprietaries is contrary to the Usage and Practice in this and other Governments, by saying, that Custom and Usage, against Reason and Justice, ought to have but little Weight. But I do not admit that Reason and Justice are on your Side of the Question; on the contrary, I think I have shewn that they are with me, and look upon the Usage and Custom as a strong Evidence, that the Legislatures of this and other Proprietary Governments were of my Opinion; and I am very much concerned, Gentlemen, that you should chuse this Time of imminent Danger, when your Country is invaded, to introduce a new and extraordinary Claim, to the Prejudice of Persons that are absent; when you know, that however right you may think it, I have it not in my Power to consent to it, consistent with Duty and Honour.

As to myself, I think it necessary to say, that for the Dispatch of the Public Business at this critical Conjuncture, when every honest Heart should be concerned for the Public Service, I studiously avoided every Thing that could renew the Disputes that subsisted between us, and earnestly recommended the same Temper of Mine to you, and cannot therefor but be exceedingly surprised in Return to be thus injuriously treated, and represented as the hateful Instrument of reducing a free People to the abject State of Vassalage. What Grounds have you, Gentlemen, for this heavy Charge? What Laws of Imposition, abhorrent to common Justice and common Reason, have I attempted to force down your Throats? Have I proposed any Thing to you, during the Course of my short Administration, but to grant Supplies to the Crown adequate to the Exigency of the Times; to assist the King's Forces sent for our Protection; and to put the Province into a Posture of Defence, by establishing a Militia, which is putting the Sword into the Hands of the People for their own Security? And where can it be trusted with more Safety to themselves? Are these Impositions, or are they abhorrent to common Justice and Reason? I have, it is true, refused to give my Assent to some Bills proposed by you, because they were contrary to the King's Instructions; and amended others, to make them agreeable to the Charter, and consistent with the Safety of the People, by lodging and Disposition of the Public Money in the Hands of the Legislature; and for this, which is no more than a due Obedience to the lawful Commands of the Crown, and the free Exercise of may Reason and Judgment in Matters of Legislation, am I branded with Infany and Reproach, and set up as the Object of the People's Resentment.

I am not, Gentlemen, conscious to myself of having done, or intended to do, any the least Injury to the People committed to my Charge; and the Man that has been oppressed or injured by me, let him stand forth and complain. Who is it in your Province that does not enjoy the Freedom of his own religious Worship? Whose Liberty have I taken away? Or Whose Property have I invaded? Surely if I have taken Advantage of the Peoples's Distress, and of your Regard for your Country, to force down your Throats Laws of Imposition, abhorrent to Justice and Reason; If I have done or attempted any Thing to deprive the People of their Liberties, and reduce them to the abject State of Vassalage, you will be able to point out some Instances of these Things; and I call upon you to do it, if you can, and make good your Charge. It is not to the People I am hateful, Gentlemen, but to yourselves; and that for no other Reason, but doing the Duty of my Station, exercising my own Judgment as a Branch of the Legislature, with Freedom and Independency, and keeping you, as far as it was in my Power, to the Duty of yours.

Had you really any Tenderness for your bleeding Country, would you have acted the Part you have done? Would you have looked tamely on, and see the *French* seat themselves within your Borders? Would you have suffered them to encrease their Numbers, and fortify themselves in a Place from whence, in a few Days, they may march on Army among the Inhabitants? Would you have been deaf to all the affectionate Warnings and Calls of his Majesty, the faithful Guardian of his People's Safety? And would you have refused the proper, necessary and timely Assistance to an Army, sent to protect these Colonies? Or would you now, when that Army is defeated, waste your Time in disputing about new and extraordinary Claims of your own raising, when every Head and Hand should be employed for the Public Safety.

However, Gentlemen, to conclude, let me entreat you to to lay aside all Heat and Animosity, to consider the naked and defendless State of the Inhabitants, with a Temper of Mind becoming the important Occasion; to look upon the *French* and their *Indians* as your only Enemies, and the Persons that intend to inslave you; and be assured, that your Proprietaries, or Governor, have no Design to the Prejudice of the People of *Pennsylvania*, but will continue to protect them in the Enjoyment of all their just Rights and Privileges.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 12, 1755.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill relating to quartering and billeting of Soldiers, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of this Morning was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Wright*, *David M'Connaughy* and *Moses Starr* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same, and report it to the House.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Stretch*, wait upon Governor with the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have read and considered the Governor's long Message of this Day, and propose to return a full, and we hope, a satisfactory Answer; but that the Public Business, of the greatest Importance, may not be any longer delayed by these Disputes, we take Leave to acquaint the Governor, that the Bill we have sent up to him is a *Money Bill*, granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the Kings Use, and we see no Reason to alter it; therefore we adhere to our Bill, and desire the Governor will be pleased to give us his final Answer, whether he will or will not pass it as it now stands.

Signed, by Order of the House,

August 13, 1755. *P. M.* ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The Secretary brought down the Bill for quartering and billeting of Soldiers, and informed the House, that the Governor was ready to pass the same into a Law whenever the House should think proper to offer it to him for that Purpose.

The Secretary likewise brought down the Bill for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, with a Message from the Governor in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'HAVING amended the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds*, and not being yet satisfied that it is in my Power, or consistent with my Trust, to pass it without those Amendments, whatever I may be when I hear what you propose to say to me upon the Head, I think it necessary, in Answer to your Message of Yesterday, to inform you, that I do adhere to the Amendments made by me to the said Bill.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 14, 1755.

The Governor also sent down to the House, by the Secretary, another Message in Writing, which was read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE received from Colonel *Dunbar* an Answer to what I wrote to him about posting Part of the Troops under his Command upon the Western Frontiers of this Province, in which he tells me, that he is willing to employ them in the best Manner he can for the Honour of his Master, and the Service of the Public; and enclosing the Opinion of a Council of War, desiring me to meet them at *Shippensburg*, where they would wait till I could join them, that proper Measures might be agreed upon for the Public Service; and I should readily have gone thither for that Purpose, had I not received a Letter from General *Shirley*, in Answer to one I wrote him, requesting his Orders for employing the Remainder of the two *English* Regiments for protecting the Frontiers of this and the neighbouring Provinces; in which he tells me, he thinks it for his Majesty's Service to employ those Troops another Way, as the populous Provinces of *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland* and *Virginia* are able to protect their own Frontiers upon the present Emergency; and therefore had sent Orders to Colonel *Dunbar*, under Cover to me, to march his Troops to this City, which I have forwarded to him.

And as the March of these Troops will leave the Western Frontiers exposed to the *French* and *Indians*, I think it my Duty to communicate this Matter to you, that you may as soon as possible make Provision for the Security of the Back Inhabitants, and for the Subsistence of the Troops during their March through this Province, which may prevent great Mischiefs to the People inhabiting near the Road from *Shippensburg* to this Town; and I heartily recommend these Matters to your Consideration.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 14, 1755.

The Secretary informed the House, that the Governor had not yet received from the Commissioners for making the Road towards the *Ohio* any Accounts of the Expences attending that Work, although he had wrote up to them some Time ago, expressly requiring the same.

Ordered, That the Bill for quartering and billeting of of Soldiers be ingrossed.

A Petition from *William Mercer*, of *Pequea*, in the County of *Lancaster*, praying that this House would reimberse the Petitioner his Expences in coming down to this City after some *Indians* who had taken a Horse from him, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill entituled, *An Act for extending so much of an Act of Parliament*, entituled, "*An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters*," *passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the present Reign, as relates to the Quartering and Billeting of Soldiers, and Payment of their Quarters in that Part of* Great-Britain *called* England, being engrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *James Wright* do meet such Members of the Council as the Governor shall appoint to compare the said Bill with the Original; and that they wait upon the Governor, and desire to know when it will suit him to receive the House, in order to enact the same into a Law.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had, with a Member of Council, compared the engrossed Bill with the Original, and found them to agree; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should be in the Council Chamber at Eleven o'Clock To-morrow Morning, in order to pass the said into a Law.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, with the Papers referred to therein, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'THE Secretary will lay before you the Copies of sundry Petitions that have been preferred to me from the Inhabitants of several Parts of this Province, representing their naked and defenceless Condition, and praying Means may be supplied to enable them to defend themselves, which you are sensible is not in my Power to comply with. He will also lay before you a Letter I received last Night from *John Harris*, giving an Account of a large Party of *Indians*, actually set out from the *French* Fort with Design to fall upon and destroy the Inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Provinces. You have, Gentlemen, this Piece of Intelligence as I received it, and will form your own Judgment of the Truth of it. For my Part, I think it probable, and therefore recommend it to you to take immediate Thought about it, as the Consequence will be very terrible to the Inhabitants if this Account be true, and it can do them no Injury to be upon their Guard if it should prove false.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 15, 1755.

The Secretary informed the House, that the Governor was now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House in order to pass into a Law the Bill for quartering and billeting of Soldiers.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *David M'Connaughy* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor. And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for extending so much of an Act of Parliament*, entituled, "*An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters," passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the present Reign, as relates to the Quartering and Billeting of Soldiers, and Payment of their Quarters in that Part of* Great-Britain *called* England, to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office, report, that they had done the same according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Report of the Committee of Accounts upon *Conrad Weiser's* Accounts was again read, and being agreed to by the House, an Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Ordered, That the Clerk do procure from the Rolls Office a certified Copy of the Commission of Property, which the present Governor has received from the Proprietaries, and bring the same to the House.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Clerk brought to the House a Copy of the Commission of Property, according to Order, and the same being read, was ordered to be printed with the Minutes of this Sitting.

And the said Commission of Property according follows, in these Words, *viz.*

'THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, true and absolute Proprietaries, and Governors in Chief of the Province of *Pennsylvania* and Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*, to ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties, *Greeting*. KNOW YOU, that We reposing special Trust and Confidence in you, have, and each of us hath, given, granted, and committed, and by these Presents DO, and each of us DOTH, give, grant, and commit unto you full Power and Authority, by Warrants, which are to be issued by our Secretary, under the Seal of our Land-Office of the said Province, to grant unto any Person or Persons lawfully claiming under our late Honoured Father WILLIAM PENN, Esquire, deceased, the late Proprietary of the said Province and Counties, or by any Authority devised by, from, or under him, or lawfully claiming under us the said present Proprietaries, or under us and our late Brother JOHN PENN, Esquire, deceased, and unto the Hiers and Assigns of such Persons so claiming for ever, any vacant Lands or Lots within the said Province, according to the Terms of the original Purchases of such Lands or Lots, they first paying to our Receiver General all such Arrears of Rent as ought to have been paid from the Time of such their original Purchases; AND ALSO, by Warrants to be issued as aforesaid, to grant to any Person or Persons who shall apply for the same, and to their Heirs and Assigns for ever, any vacant Lands within the said Province and Counties, or any of them upon, by and under the same Terms, Methods, Rents and Reservations, as have of late been used and practised in the Land-Office, but for no less Price, Condition, Rent or Reservation in any wise; AND ALL such Rents to be reserved on all, or any of the before-mentioned Lands, are, and shall be, reserved and made payable in Sterling Money, or the Value thereof, according to the Course of Exchange between the said Province and the City of *London*, at the Times of Payment; AND with further Power also, by Warrants to be issued by our Secretary, under the Seal of our Land-Office of the said Province, to grant to any Person or Persons who shall apply for the same, and to their Heirs and Assigns for ever, any other Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments within the said Province and Counties, or any of them, which at any Time heretofore have been granted out to any Person or Persons, by any former Proprietary or Proprietaries of the said Province, or any acting under their Authority, and which already have come, or at any Time or Times hereafter shall or may, by Escheat, come or belong to us the said Proprietaries, or our Heirs, whether the same shall have been, or shall not have been, before improved in the whole, or in any Part, upon and under the best Terms, Rents and Reservations than can be obtained for the same, so as the yearly Rents to be reserved for the same, be all reserved and made payable in Sterling Money, or the Value thereof, according to the Course of Exchange between the said Province and the City of *London* at the Time of Payment, and be not less than *One Halfpenny* Sterling for each Acre by the Year; AND ALSO, by Warrants to be issued by our Secretary, under the Seal of our Land-Office of the said Province, to grant to any Person or Persons who shall apply for the same, and to their Heirs and Assigns for ever, any Lots of Land on the Streets laid out in our Manor of *Springetsbury*, in the County of *Philadelphia*, adjoining to the City of *Philadelphia*, on the North-Side thereof, which has been lately laid out into Streets, to be left for Building, upon and under the best Terms, Rents and Reservations that can be obtained for the same, without taking any Fine or Purchase Money, so as the Yearly Rents to be reserved for the same, be all reserved and made payable in Sterling Money, or the Value thereof, according to the Course of Exchange between the said Province and the City of *London*, at the Times of Payment, and shall not be less than *Three Shillings* Sterling *per Annum* for each Foot in Front of the same Lots; AND ALSO, upon Certificates being produced of the Survey of any such vacant, escheated, or other Lands or Lots having been made by the Surveyor General, and also of the Consideration-Money for such vacant, escheated, or other Lands or Lots having been paid to the Receiver General, in such Cases where any Consideration-Money is to be paid, to grant Letters Patent, to be prepared by our Secretary for the Time being, to such Person and Persons, and to their Heirs and Assigns for ever, for all such vacant, escheated, and other Lands and Lots respectively, from Time to Time, under the Great Seal of the said Province, such Letters Patent to contain the respective Reservations herein before directed to be reserved in the respective Warrants, and to be duly recorded in the proper Office for recording Deeds in our said City of *Philadelphia;* and such Letters Patent, when so made and recorded, shall be deemed good, valid and effectual in Law. AND ALSO, to grant, under the Great Seal of the said Province, Licenses for the Erecting or Continuing Ferries within the said Province and Counties, or any of them, as to you shall seem meet, but not to exceed the Term of Seven Years from the Time of granting such Licences, which Licenses also shall be recorded in the said Office for recording Deeds in the said City of *Philadelphia;* AND ALSO, in case of the Misbehaviour, Death, or voluntary Resignation of any of the Officers which have been, or shall be, employed in or about, or relating to the Premises, or any of them, to remove and displace any such Officer or Officers, and to appoint and put in any others from Time to Time into such Office and Offices until further Orders; YOU always taking immediately upon such Appointments good and sufficient Securities from the Persons so to be appointed, and from their respective Sureties, before such Persons shall take upon them to act, for the due and faithful Execution of such Offices, and for their due accounting to us, and to the Proprietaries for the Time being; AND ALSO, from Time to Time, whensoever you shall judge it to be for our Service, to inspect into the Conduct and Management of all or any such Officers whom it doth or may concern, and to make Report unto us how you shall find the same: AND ALSO, for the Purpose herein before expressed, or any of them, to make Use of the Provincial, or any other Seal or Seals of the said Province and Counties, or of either or any of them, as shall be requisite and proper; AND WHAT you shall lawfully do, or cause to be done, in all or any the Premises, or the Dependencies thereof, by Virtue and in Pursuance of these Presents, We, and each of us, shall, and will, at all Times, hold for firm, valid and effectual, and as such shall and will ratify and confirm the same, under the Conditions aforesaid: AND KNOW YE FURTHER, that in order to prevent the great Inconvenience and Delay which might arise to the Business of settling and improving the said Province and Counties in case of your Death, or ceasing to act as Lieutenant-Governor of the same, until some other Person shall be appointed or act as Governor; THEREFORE, we reposing special Trust and Confidence in the present President of our Council, and in the other Members of the same, HAVE, and each of us HATH, given, granted and committed, and by these Presents DO, and each of us DOTH, give, grant and commit unto the present President (if, and when, he shall act as President of our Council in the said Province) and unto such Person as shall from Time to Time act as President of our said Council upon, and immediately, or at any other Time after, your Decease, or ceasing to act as Lieutenant Governor of the said Province and Counties, and so from Time to Time when and as often, and as long as you shall cease to act as Lieutenant-Governor of the same, until some other Person shall be appointed or act as Governor (but not at any other Time or Times) full Power and Authority to do, execute and perform all and every or any of the Matters and Things for the Granting and Confirming of any Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments, or for the Licensing of Ferries within the said Province and Counties, or any of them, which you are herein before impowered and authorised to do, execute and perform in relation thereto, while you shall continue to act as Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties; AND THAT AND THOSE in the same Manner and Form, and subject to the same Rules, Directions and Restrictions in all Respects whatsoever, as are herein before mentioned and expressed, and as are to be observed and performed by you the said ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, in granting out, or licensing any such Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments or Ferries; AND WHAT the said President of our said Council, or such other President of our said Council for the Time being, shall then, and at all such Times, and in such Cases, lawfully do, or cause to be done, in all or any the Premises, for the Granting and Confirming of any Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments, or for the Licensing of Ferries within the said Province and Counties, or any of them, by Virtue and in Pursuance of these Presents, we the said Proprietaries, and each of us, shall and will at all Times hold for firm, valid and effectual, and as such ratify and confirm the same, under the Conditions aforesaid. AND KNOW YE FURTHERMORE, that we the said Proprietaries reposing further Trust and Confidence in the said present President, and in any further President of our Council in the said Province, and also in all others the Members of our said Council, HAVE, and each of us HATH, given, granted and committed, and by these Presents DO, and each of us DOTH, give, grant and commit unto the present President of our Council, in the said Province, along with any four or more other Persons, who shall, for the Time being, be of our said Council, and also unto such other Person as from Time to Time shall hereafter act as President of our said Council, from, and immediately after, or at any other Time after your Decease, or ceasing to act as Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties, until some other Person shall be appointed or act as Governor, along with any four or more other Persons, who shall, for the Time being, be of our said Council from Time to Time, when and as often, and as long as you shall cease to act as Lieutenant-Governor of the same (but not at any other Time or Times) full Power

Counties, and upon the Decease or voluntary Resignation of and Authority, upon the Decease or voluntary Resignation of our Secretary of the Land-Office, for the Management of our Proprietary Land Affairs in the said Province and Counties, and upon the Decrease or voluntary Resignation of the Receiver General, Surveyor General, or any other Officer or Officers appointed for the Management of our Proprietary Land or Revenue Affairs in the said Province and Counties, to constitute and appoint new, proper, and responsible Persons to execute the said Officers so becoming vacant as aforesaid, or any of them, until further Order, as fully as you the said ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS are authorised or impowered to appoint, during your continuing Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties, the said President and Counsellors, always taking, immediately upon such Appointments, good and sufficient Securities for the Persons so to be appointed, and from their respective Sureties, for the due and faithful Execution of such Offices, and for their due accounting to us, and to the Proprietaries for the Time being, before such Persons shall take upon them to act. IN WITNESS whereof, we have hereunto set our Hands and Seals the Sixteenth Day of *May*, in the Twenty-seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of God of *Great-Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, King Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and Four.

THOMAS PENN. L. S.
RICHARD PENN. L. S.

'*Signed, Sealed, and delivered by the before named* THOMAS PENN, *and* RICHARD PENN, *in the Presence of us,*

FERDINANDO JOHN PARIS,
ROBERT GWYN."

'ROBERT GWYN, of *Arundell-Street*, in the *Strand*, in the Parish of *St. Clement Danes*, in the Liberty of *Westminister*, County of *Middlesex*, and Kingdom of *Great-Britain*, Gentlemen, maketh Oath, That he was personally present as a Witness, and did see and hear THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, the Persons named and described in the Parchment Instrument in Writing, or Deed Poll or Commission, bearing Date the Sixteenth Day of *May*, One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and Four, hereunto annexed (with which said THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, this Deponent hath for many Years last past been personally acquainted) and each of them duly sign, seal, and, as their several and respective Acts and Deeds, deliver the said hereunto annexed Parchment Instrument in Writing, or Deed Poll or Commission; and thereupon *Ferdinando John Paris*, of *Surry-street* in the *Strand*, in the aforesaid Parish of *St. Clement Danes*, Gentlemen, together, with this Deponent, respectively subscribed their several Names at the Foot of the said annexed Parchment Instrument in Writing, or Deed Poll or Commission, as Witnesses to the Signing, Sealing and Delivery of the same by the said THOMAS PENN AND RICHARD PENN; and that the Name THOMAS PENN, unto the same annexed Parchment Instrument in Writing, or Deed Poll or Commission, set and subscribed as the Name of one of the two Parties executing the same, in such Manner as the same now appears thereto, was and is of the proper Hand Writing of the before named THOMAS PENN; and that the Name RICHARD PENN, thereunto set and subscribed, as the Name of the other of the two Parties executing the same in such Manner as the same now appears thereto, was and is of the proper Hand Writing of the before named RICHARD PENN; and that the Name *Ferdinando John Paris*, thereunto set and subscribed, as the Name of one of the two Witnesses attesting the Signing, Sealing, and Delivery of the same by the said THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, in such Manner as the same now appears thereto, was and is of the proper Hand Writing of the before named *Ferdinando John Paris*, and was so therefore set and subscribed in this Deponent's Presence; and that the Name *Robert Gwyn*, thereunto set and subscribed, as the Name of the other of the two Witnesses attesting the Signing, Sealing, and Delivery of the same by the said THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, in such Manner as the same now appears thereto, was and is of the proper Handwriting of this Deponent.

Sworn the 31st Day of May 1754, before me

ROBERT GWYN."

in London, THOMAS RAWLINSON, *Mayor*.

'TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come, I *Thomas Rawlinson*, Esq; Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, do hereby certify That on the Day of the Date thereof personally came and appeared before me *Robert Gwyn*, of *Arundell-Street*, in the *Strand*, in the Parish of *St. Clement Danes*, in the Liberty of *Westminster* County of *Middlesex* and *Kingdom* of *Great-Britain*, Gentlemen, being a Person well known, and worthy of good Credit, and did by solemn Oath, which he took upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, solemnly declare, testify and depose to be true, the several Matters and Things contained in the Affidavit hereunto annexed.

L. S. IN Faith and Testimony whereof, I the said Lord Mayor have caused the Seal of the Office of Mayoralty of the said City of *London* to be hereunto put and affixed, and the Parchment Instrument mentioned in the said Affidavit to be also hereunto annexed. Dated in *London*, the Thirty-first Day of *May*, in the Twenty-seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of God King of *Great-Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-four. MAN.'

Recorded the 18th Day of *October*, 1754.

I Charles Brockden, *Deputy Master of the Rolls for the province of* Pennsylvania, *and Recorder of Deeds for the City and County of* Philadelphia, *do hereby certify, that the foregoing, contained in three Half Sheets of Paper, written on both Sides each, is an Exemplification and true Copy of an original Record, remaining in the Rolls Office; as witnesseth my Hand and Seal of my Office,* C. BROCKDEN, M. R. D.

The Committee appionted to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Thirteenth Instant, reported the same to the House, and the same being read, was referred for Consideration to next *Second-day*, in the Afternoon.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the two following Messages in Writing, with the Papers mentioned therein, which was read, and the Messages are as follow, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"BY an Extract of a Letter from Governor *Lawrence*, to Lieutenant Governor *Phips*, sent me by Governor *De Lancey*, I find that the *French*, at *Louisburg*, are in great Distress for Provisions, insomuch, that he thinks they may be reduced to the Necessity of giving up the Place to us, if a Supply can be prevented.

I therefore recommend it to you to think of some proper Law that may most effectually prevent their being supplied from this Province.

Philadelphia, August 16, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

GENTLEMEN,

"IF my Message gave you Room to think that the *Owendaets* came here on a particular Invitation of mine, at this Time, I have led you into a Mistake. They set out from their Country as they have informed me on the Plan set forth in the Minutes of Council of the Twentieth and Twenty-fourth of *December* last, which were laid before you.

The other *Indians*, at their Request, accompanied them hither as they were Strangers, and *Scaroyady* says, he has some particular Business to transact with this Government. I have in the Name of the Province given Thanks to the *Owendaets* for this kind Visit, and to those of the *Six* Nations that were with our Army in the late Action; assured them all of the Affections of the *English;* recommended to them to continue firm in their Attachment to us; and given them Room to expect some Presents as a Token of our Regard.

As the Treasury is exhausted, I can only say, that I will readily pass a Bill for striking any Sum in Paper Money the present Exigency may require: provided Funds are established for sinking the same in Five Years.

The Secretary will communicate to you what was said to the *Indians* Yesterday, and I shall lay before you what may further pass between us, and earnestly recommend it to you to enable me to send these People away perfectly satisfied.

Philadelphia, August 16, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The following Proposal was presented to the House, and read, *viz.*

To the Honourable HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES *of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *in General Assembly met, at* Philadelphia *the 16th Day of* August, 1755.

WE, the Subscribers observe, with great Concern, that the Governor and Assembly differ in Opinion, in respect to the Taxing the Proprietaries Estate; And left by such Difference in Opinion the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for his Majesty's Service should not take Effect.

And as the Assembly, in their Message to the Governor, seem to be of Opinion, that were the Proprietaries lands to be taxed the Sum would not exceed *Five Hundred Pounds.*

We, rather than the least Check should be given to his Majesty's Service at this Time of imminent Danger, by a Matter so very trifling, do hereby promise and engage to pay *Five Hundred Pounds* Money of *Pennsylvania*, into the Public Stock, for the King's Use, in Lieu of what the Proprietaries would pay as their Part of the *Fifty Thousand Pounds;* were their Lands to be taxed.

And as we declare the Absence of the Honourable the Proprietaries to be our Motive for making this Proposal, being well assured, that were they present it would have been altogether unnecessary; and we doubt not but they will honourably acquit every Subscriber of this Expence.

William Plumsted,	£ 50	0	0	*Amos Strettell*,	25	0	0
Samuel M'Call, sen.	25	0	0	*Joseph Turner*,	50	0	0
John Wilcox,	25	0	0	*Joseph Sims*,	10	0	0
John Kearsley,	25	0	0	*John Gibson*,	10	0	0
David Franks,	10	0	0	*John Wallace*,	10	0	0
John Kearsley, jun.	7	10	0	*George Okill*,	10	0	0
Samuel and Archibald M'Call,	50	0	0	*Samuel Mifflin*,	25	0	0
William Allen,	100	0	0	*Townsend White*,	10	0	0
Thomas Cadwalader,	15	0	0	*Joseph Wood*,	10	0	0
Alexander Huston,	25	0	0	*John Bell*,	10	0	0

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Sundry Letters from the Agents of this Province at the court of *Great Britain*, were laid before the House and read.

The Draught of the Answer to the Governor's Message of the Thirteenth Instant, was again read, and with some Alterations agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Speaker having requested *Conrad Weiser* to make out a List of such Goods as he should think would be an acceptable Present to the *Indians* now in Town; the said *Weiser* accordingly laid before the House a List of Goods, amounting, according to his Computation, to *Ninety-five Pounds Eight Shillings*, which he informed the House would, in his Opinion, be a very satisfactory Present to the said *Indians*. And it was thereupon

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Joseph Fox* do purchase, at the Expence of this House, the Goods mentioned in the said List, and cause them to be delivered to the *Indians* this Afternoon.

An Account from *John Harris*, of *Paxton*, dated *July* 30, 1755, for the Maintenance of sundry *Indians*, was laid before the House, and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

A Petition from *Andrew Montour*, *Indian* Interpreter, was presented to the House, and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner has been in the Public Service for several Years past, and was in both the late unfortunate Engagements with the *French*, *to wit*, under Colonel *Washington* last Year, and under General *Braddock* this Year; that the Petitioner has thereby lost all his Substance, and is now about *Eighty Pounds* in Debt; that it is well known the Petitioner was worth Money before he engaged in the Service of the Public; he therefore prays this House would take his Case into Consideration, and grant him such Assistance as they shall think proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Several Accounts relating to the *Ohio* Road, sent to the House by the Secretary, were read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House, a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE by Express received Letters from General *Shirley*, wherein he acquaints me, that he has wrote to Colonel *Dunbar*, that it appears clear to him, as there will be four Months of good Weather before the Winter sets in, that with the Number of Forces the Colonel now has, and the Assistances he may receive from the Provinces of *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland* and *Virginia*, he may yet have it in his Power to retrieve the Loss sustained by the late Defeat of Mayor General *Braddock*, by proceeding directly to *Fort Duquesne*, and has sent him Orders for that Purpose: And further says to me, that it will depend upon this Government, and those of *Virginia* and *Maryland*, to assist Colonel *Dunbar* with Reinforcements, Provisions, Ammunition, Artillery, Ordnance Stores, Carriages, Horses, and all other Things to fit him our for his March, and the Service he is ordered upon; and that he has wrote to the same Effect to Governor *Dinwiddie*, and Governor *Sharpe*, whose Assistance, with that of this Province, he entirely relies upon at this extraordinary Crisis.

I must therefore recommend it to you to enable me to do the several Things expected by the General from this Province, and that you would take this Matter immediately into your Consideration, and give me your Answer thereto, that I may send the same forward to Colonel *Dunbar*, and the Governors of *Maryland* and *Virginia*, whose Resolutions will in a great Measure depend on what I shall be enabled to do.

I recommend it to you, whatever Resolutions you may come to upon this Occasion, to keep this Matter secret.

Philadelphia, August 19, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Proposal of sundry Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, to pay the Proprietaries Tax, being again read, and considered,

Resolved, That such a Proposal to this House is improper, as this House is destitute of the necessary Information to assess any Estate duly, and neither can nor ought to assess the Proprietaries Estate at the Sum proposed, or at any other Sum whatever; and as, in Case the Subscribers should neglect or refuse to pay the Sum subscribed, it would not be in the Power of this House, not being a Body incorporate, to sue them for the same. But as the House presumes that the said Proposal may have arose from the Subscribers Judgment of the Equity of taxing the Proprietaries Estate equally with all others in this Province, for their common Safety.

Ordered, That the said Proposal be sent up to the Governor as a further Security to him, in Case he should give his Assent to the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, by a Tax of *Twelve-pence per Pound*, and *Twenty Shillings per* Head, yearly, for two Years, on all Estates, Real and Personal, within this Province.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock *P. M.*

The Answer to the Governor's Message of the Thirteenth Instant, being transcribed, was read, and compared at the Table, and is as follows: *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

HOW disagreeable soever the Task may be, to wade through all the Misrepresentations in the Governor's long Message of the Thirteenth Instant, a Regard to Truth, and to Truths of Importance to the Welfare of our Country, will oblige us to submit to it.

The Governor is pleased to tell us, that "when he sent down our Bill, for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds*, with Amendments, he expected we should have returned it with the Amendments, and informed him which of them we agreed to, this being the *common* and *ordinary Method* in such cases." The Governor allows in this Message, that we have by Charter "the Powers and Privileges of an Assembly, according to the rights of the Freeborn Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*:" Now we take it to be one of those Privileges and Powers of an Assembly, to have their Money Bills, granting Supplies to the Crown, accepted as they are tendered, if at all accepted, and that without any Proposal of Amendments. We think this is a Privilege claimed and used by the House of Commons, and as far as we know by all the Assemblies in *America;* so that it is far from being the *common* and *ordinary* Method to receive and debate on Amendments proposed by the Governor to such Bills. It is therefore without Foundation, that the Governor supposes we agreed to all the other Amendments, merely because we offered no Reasons against any of them, that which related to taxing the Proprietary Estate. For we even made that Step of Deviation from the *common* and *ordinary* Method, entirely in Consideration that the Occasion for the Supply was *uncommon* and *extraordinary*, hoping thereby to come more speedily to a happy Conclusion in the Business of the Session, and without the least Intention that it should ever be drawn into Precedent.

The Governor still insists, that taxing the Proprietary Estate, though it be to free it from *French* Encroachments, will be an Encumbrance on that Estate. Be it so then, since the Governor will have it so, for our Differences are less about Words than Things: Does this however prove the Validity of the Prohibitory Clause in his Commission? or that it is equitable and just the Proprietary Estate alone should be exempt from a Tax which all the Estates in *Britain* and her Colonies now bear, or must bear, to free that very Estate from Encroachments and Encumbrance?

The Governor is "not fortunate enough, he is pleased to say, to comprehend the Force of our Reasonings on this Head, that are drawn from tht Fourth Section of the Royal Charter," which, though it gives Power to the "Proprietaries and their Deputies and Lieutenants to make Laws, does not alter the Relation between a Principal and his Deputy, or make the Deputy equal to, or independant of, the Principal, *&c.*" We will therefore, for the Governor's Satisfaction, endeavour to express our Sentiments yet plainer, if possible, and enforce them farther. "The Royal Charter grants full, free and absolute Power (not only to the Proprietary and his Heirs) but to his and their *Deputies* and *Lieutenants*, to enact *any Laws whatsoever*, for *raising Money* for the *Safety of the Country*, according to their *best Discretion*, with the Assent of the Freemen," *&c.* But the Governor objects, notwithstanding this full and free Power granted by the Royal Charter to me as the Proprietaries Deputy, I cannot use my *best Discretion* in this Case, nor enact the proposed Law, because there is in my Commission a Prohibitory Clause or *Saving* which restrains me; and if *I should pass it, such Prohibition notwithstanding, the Law would not be valid.* To this we answered, that no Prohibition of the Proprietaries can lessen or take away from the Lieutenant Governor, any Power he is vested with by the Royal Charter; and, in Support of this, as an Argument, at least to the Governor, produced to him an Opinion of the Proprietary and Governor's former Council, on the Case of a Proviso or Saving in the Lieutenant's Commission, that restrained, in Favour of the Proprietary, the Power of making Laws which is granted to the Lieutenant in the Royal Charter. This Opinion (which the Governor allows to be a good One) declares *that* SAVING *to be void in itself*, and that any Laws passed by the Lieutenant shall be *valid*, the Saving notwithstanding. But the Governor would distinguish it away, by alledging, "that though the Opinion was good in that Case, it is not applicable to all Cases." If it is applicable to the present Case, it is all that is necessary for our Purpose, which was to shew, that a Proviso in his Commission, restricting the Powers granted him by Charter, was void in itself; and that if he passed a Law contrary to the Proviso, the Law would be valid. The "Relation between the Principal and his Deputy" still remains entire: the Deputy is dependent on the Principal, and may be removed by him at Pleasure. But as the Principal cannot give Powers to the Deputy which he has not himself, so neither can he lessen the Powers given to the Deputy by the Charter. If the Proprietary can, by Prohibitory Clauses in his Commission, restrain the Deputy from passing any one Law which otherwise he had Power by the Charter to pass, he may by the same Rule restrain him from passing every Law, and so the Deputy would be no Deputy. That the Charter makes the Proprietary "civilly answerable for what is done in the Province by their Lieutenants," we conceive to be a Mistake. The Proprietary is, by the Charter, made answerable for any Misdemeanour that he himself shall *commit*, or by any *wilful* Default or Neglect *permit*, against the Laws of Trade and Navigation. But if the Deputy commits a Misdemeanour, which the Proprietary does not *permit*, through his own *wilful Default* or *Neglect*, we presume he is not answerable for such Misdemeanour by the Charter; and less, in Reason, now, than when the Charter was given; as by Act of Parliament of later Date, every Deputy appointed by the Proprietary, must before he can act as such, receive the Royal Approbation. The very Nature and Reason of the Thing, moreover, seems to us to show, that a Deputy to do a Thing, should have all the Powers of the Principal necessary for doing that Thing; and every Lieutenant or Deputy Governor, is, by the Nature of his Office, and the Reason of his Appointment, to supply or *hold the Place* of a Governor, But the Royal Charter being so express and plain in the Point, leaves us under no Necessity of investigating this Truth by Reason. Should our Constituents, when they chose us to represent them in Assembly, not only instruct us. but *even take Bonds* of us, that we should assent to no Law *for the better and more effectual Recovery of the Proprietary Quitrents*, if such a Law were required of us, or thought necessary by the Governor: Would he think such Prohibitions or Bonds valid? Would he not say they were void in themselves as forbidding what he thinks a just and reasonable Thing, depriving us of the Right of using our *best Discretion*, and restraining the Powers granted to us by Charter. The Case we conceive to be the same with respect to the Proprietaries Lieutenant (who is their Representative) if he is so restrained as the Governor thinks himself to be.

"The Government, and the Exercise of the Government, are inseparable," says Chief Justice *Pollexsen*, a famous Lawyer, "and whereever the Government is granted, the Exercise of that Government is meant and included. If the King grant to any one the Government of *Jamaica*, or the like," continues he, "sure no one will say, that that is not a Grant of the Exercise of the Government there!" And we suppose this is as good Law, with regard to the Grant of the Government of *Pennsylvania*.

The Governor is pleased to say, that he cannot help observing, that we formerly used the same Arguments against the *Validity* of Royal Instructions. We have all due Respect and Deference for Royal Instructions; the King has not any where a more dutiful and loyal People; but what does the Governor intend by the VALIDITY of Instructions? Does he mean that they are *Laws* in the Colonies? And if the Royal Instructions were such, does it follow that Proprietary Instructions have the same *Validity?* We apprehend there may be some Difference, but at present it is not necessary to discuss it.

For our doubting in the least the Governor's Power to make the offered Grants of Land (free of Purchase Money and Quitrent for Fifteen Years) in the Behalf of Proprietary, he is pleased to treat us with great Contempt on account of our

Ignorance, observing, that "it is something *very extraordinary*, that the Representative Body of *Pennsylvania* should *know so little* of the Affairs of the Province, as never to have been informed, that the Governor grants the Proprietary Lands under a *certain Power of Attorney, regularly proved and recorded, called a Commission of Property:* That this Power was formerly vested in private Persons, but for some Years past has been given to the Governors; and being the Foundation of Property, cannot be unknown to any the *least acquainted* with the Circumstances of the Province. And now, continues the Governor, to ask a Question or two in my Turn, How could you think that the Lands in the Province were granted under the Powers of Commission [meaning his Commission as Lieutenant Governor] which expressly prohibits the Granting of any?" Really we should be very ignorant indeed if we thought so; but it happens, may it please the Governor, that we are perfectly well acquainted with all these Matters, and have even now lying before us an authentic Copy of that *certain Power of Attorney, called a Commission of Property*, which, we suppose, most, who have read the Governor's Message, are persuaded gives him full Powers to make the Grants of Land, which in his Message of the Twenty-eighth past, he proposed "to make to such Persons as shall now engage to go upon an Expedition to remove the *French* from their Encroachment on the River *Ohio*, without any Purchase Money, and free of Quitrents for Fifteen Years."

Our Copy of this Commission is taken from the Records, and certified to be a true One, under the Hand and Office Seal of the Master of the Rolls. We have examined it thoroughly to find the Powers by which those Grants were to be made, and unfortunately (we are sorry we are obliged to say it to the Governor) *there is no such Thing;* not even a Syllable of the Kind: But on the contrary, after a Power given to the Governor to grant Lands claimed by Virtue of former Purchases, there is this Clause, "And also by Warrants to be issued as as aforesaid, to grant to any Person or Persons who shall apply for the same, and to their Heirs and Assigns for ever, any vacant Lands within the said Province and Counties, or any of them, *upon, by and under the* SAME TERMS, *Methods, Rents and Reservations, as have of late been used and practised in the said Land Office*, BUT FOR NO LESS PRICE, CONDITION, *Rent or Reservation in any wise.*"

That is, for *Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings* per Hundred Acres, Purchase Money, and *Four Shillings* and *Two-pence* Sterling Quitrent. And now will the Governor give us Leave to ask a Question or two in *our* Turn? "How could he think that Lands might be granted away, without any Purchase Money, and free of Quitrent for Fifteen Years, under the Powers of a Commission which expressly forbids his granting any," *under less Price, Condition, Rent or Reservation whatsoever, than has of late been used and practised in the Land Office?* How could he think of referring us to such a Commission for his Power to make those Grants, when he knew it was never there? How could he slight his Reputation so much, as to hazard such an Imposition on the Assembly and whole Province!——one so easily detected! We make no further Remarks on this, lest we should again incur the Censure of treating our Governor in an "unbecoming Manner."

"The Proposal, however, the Governor is pleased to say, was made with a good Intention; and had we raised Money for an Expedition to the Westward, and for encouraging Settlers, he should *then* have made an Offer of the Lands by Proclamation, letting the Adventurers know, that they were to have the Choice of the Lands, in Preference to all others, with every Thing else that could reduce the Offer to a Certainty, which there was no Necessity of doing in a Message to us, barely mentioning the Thing, and recommending to us to grant an Aid to those that should become Settlers." It is remarkable how slowly and gradually this generous Offer is squezzed out. We never heard a Word of it during all the Time of General *Braddock's* Expedition, for which Recruits were raised both in this and the Neighbouring Colonies, though the Governor brought over with him, and had in his Pocket all the while, that "*Certain Power of Attorney, called a Commission of Property*," to which we referred for his Powers of making the Offer. But as soon as the House had voted to raise *Fifty Thousand Pounds* by a Tax on all the Estates in the Province, real and personal, down comes a Message, containing a Proposal to grant Lands to the Soldiers who should engage in the Expedition; a Proposal *made with a good Intention*, as the Governor says; that is, with an Intention to get the Proprietary Estate exempted from the Tax, by seeming to offer an Equivalent in another Manner; but worded in the most cautious Terms, as became an Offer made without Authority; and so as indeed to offer Nothing that could affect the Proprietary; for the Quitrent to be reserved, not being ascertained, but left in the Proprietary's Breast, he might, when the Patents were to issue, demand a Quitrent greater than the Worth of the Land. This being observed, and talked of, we had another Message intimating that the Quitrent to be reserved should be only the common Quitrent of *Four Shillings* and *Two-pence* Sterling, *per* 100 Acres. But still the Land was no otherwise described than as *West of the Allegheny Mountains;* leaving the Proprietary at Liberty, after the Conquest should be make, to pick out, according to the modern Practice, all the best Lands for himself and his Friends, and offer the Adventurers such as they would be sure not to accept of under that Rent. And this being pointed out, we are now told, "that a *future* Proclamation is to give them the CHOICE of the *best Lands;* but it was not necessary to mention this to us in a Message recommending to us the Granting an Aid to those Settlers." If we were to grant Aids to the Settlers on Proprietary Lands, was it not proper for us, as Guardians of the People, to know the Terms on which they were to *hazard their Lives*, and see that those Terms were good in themselves, and the Offer duly ascertained? We conceive, may it please the Governor, that whenever we grant an Aid for the Encouragement of such Settlers, it will be proper to have the Terms ascertained by the same Law, and not left to the precarious Effect of a Proclamation thereafter to be made by a Governor, in the Proprietary's Behalf, without any apparent Power for so doing. If the Offer is well meant, a Law to ascertain it cannot hurt the Proprietaries: The *Recovery of the Country*, and the *Settlement of the Lands*, are two distinct Things. Let us first join equitably in the Tax for the *Recovery;* and whenever the Governor shall be willing to pass such a Law, we are not averse to giving the Proposal of *granting Lands* a full and mature Consideration; and affording such equivalent Encouragement to Settlers, in *Provisions*, &c. as we mentioned in our former Message. But if he can pass such a Law to grant the Proprietary's Lands, contrary to the Prohibition in his Commission, may he not full as well pass the Bill for taxing the Proprietaries Estate?

We cannot leave this Point, without a Word or two in Justification of ourselves, against the heavy Charge of depreciating, from a bad Temper of Mind, this *generous Offer*, that would have had such *good Effects*, in promoting the public Service and Safety. We would not be misunderstood; we look upon it that Lands may be made a valuable Encouragement, but we do not see any *Generosity* in offering them to the Recoverers at *double* the Market Price. The Encouragement to Adventurers is not diminished, but rather increased, by our telling them where they may, for their Service in the *same Expedition*, have Lands equally good and more convenient on better Terms. For the *Virginia* vacant Lands are many of them nearer to navigable Water than the good Western Lands of this Province, and equally well accommodated by the Waggon Road made by the late Army. It is true, the Proprietaries Price is *Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings* per Hundred Acres, with a Quitrent of *Four Shillings* and *Two-pence* Sterling. Numbers who imprudently made Improvements before they obtained a Title were obliged to give that Price; and the great Assistance our Loan-Office afforded, by furnishing Money to poor People on low Interest, and taking it again in small Payments, thereby enabling them to purchase Lands, an Advantage they could not have elsewhere, might encourage many to stay in the Country, and take up Lands on those Terms. But that is now over; for the Act is near expiring, and it seems we are to have more of the Kind; and when that Encouragement had its full Force, was it ever known that any People came from *Virginia* to purchase here, on account of the superior Goodness or Convenience of our Lands? On the contrary, have not many Thousands of Families gone from hence thither, and within these few Years settled fifteen or twenty new Counties in that Colony? Have not Thousands likewise left us to settle in *Carolina?* Had not the exorbitant Price at which the Proprietaries held their Lands, and their Neglect of *Indian* Purchasing in order to keep up that Price, driven these People from among us, this Province would at this Day have been in much more flourishing Condition. Our Number of Inhabitants and our Trade would, in all Probability, have been double; we should have been more able to defend the Proprietary's Estate and pay his Tax for him, and possibly more willing: But they are gone, and gone for ever, and Numbers are going after them! And if the new Politicks prevail, and our distinguishing Privileges are one by one to be taken from us, we may, without the Gift of Prophecy, venture to foretel, that the Province will soon empty itself much faster then it ever filled.

In fine, this Offer was in Fact a mere Illusion, intended first to impose on the Assembly, and then on the People; it was likewise to *figure with* at Home in the Eyes of the Ministry. We discovered the Deception, and the Governor is offended that we did not keep the Secret. He is "astonished that we should depreciate an Offer which would have had good Effects, and included many to have gone on the Expedition, and become Settlers, that would not otherwise have thought of doing either." May it please the Governor, as bad an Opinion, as he is pleased to entertain of us, we have some Conscience; and would not chuse, by our Silence, to have any Share in the Disappointment and other ill Consequences which might ensue to those who should have gone on that vague, empty, unwarranted Offer, and not otherwise have thought of it. And we, in our Turn, may be *astonished* that the Governor should expect it of us.

We are in the next Place told by the Govrnor, "that we take a very nice Distinction between the Proprietary as Owner of Land, and the Proprietary as Chief-Governor, and say, we we do not tax him as Governor, but as a Land-holder and Fellow-Subject." Our Words are, "We do not *propose* to tax him as Governor, *&c.* "but the Governor by carefully omitting the Word *propose*, in his Quotation, gives himself an Opportunity of expatiating on the Absurdity and Insolence of our inverting the Order of Things, and assuming a Power to tax the Proprietaries, "under whom, he is pleased to say, we derive the Power of acting as an Assembly." Had the Word *propose* been honestly left in its Place, there would have been no Room for all this Declamation; and the Demand, *How came* YOU *by a Right to tax them?* might have well been spared; since, though we as an Assembly have no Right to tax the Proprietary Estate, yet the Proprietary and Assembly together have surely such a Right; and as he is present "by his own particular Representative the Governor," we may have a Right to *propose* such a Thing to him, if we think it reasonable. Especially since we do not, as the Governor imagines we do, derive our Power of acting as as Asembly from the Proprietary, but from the same Royal Charter, that impowers him to act as Governor.

We had been told in a former Message, that the Proprietary ought to be exempt from Taxes, for he was a Governor, and Governors were exempt by the Nature of their Office: We replied, that he did *not* govern us, but the Province supported his Lieutenant to do that Duty for him. On this the Governor now makes the following Observation, "It may be very true, as you say that the Proprietaries do *not govern* you; but that is not owing to any Want of a legal Authority in them, but from *another Cause*, that I need not mention here." We were reproached in the Beginning of this Message, as *playing with Words;* and the Governor, it seems, has now caught the Infection. The Reason we gave, why the Proprietary could not be said to govern us, was a plain One; but the Governor insinuates some *other Cause* without explaining it, that there may be Room for the Reader's Imagination to make it any Thing or every Thing that is bad. We dislike these dark Innuendoes, and shall speak our Minds openly.

It may be thought rude and unpolite, perhaps, but it is at least fair and honest, and may prevent Misunderstandings. If therefore the present Proprietaries do not govern us, it is because they never assumed the Government in their own Persons, but, as we said before, employ a Deputy; and if the Deputy does not govern us, it is not because we are ungovernable or rebellious, as he would insinuate, nor for Want of sufficient Power in his Hands by the Constitution, but because he has not that *Spirit of Government*, that *Skill*, and those *Abilities*, that should qualify him for his Station.

The Governor is pleased to tell us, "That our Distinction between the Proprietary as Owner of Land, and the Proprietary as Chief Governor, has no Existence in Law or Reason." We shall endeavour to shew him, that it exists in both with regard to the King, and therefore presume it may with regard to the Proprietary. The Governor tells us likewise, as a Matter of Law, "that the King can have no private Estate, but from the Dignity of his Office hold his Lands in Right of the Crown." We are not any of us Lawyers by Profession, and would not venture to dispute the Governor's Opinion, if we did not imagine we had good Authority for it: We find in *Viner's* Abridgment, an allowed Book, Title *Descent of Lands*, these Observations, which we hope may be satisfactory to the Governor in both Points. It is there said, "That the King has two Capacities, for he has two Bodies, of which the one is a Body natural, consisting of natural Members, as every other Man is; the other is a Body politic, and his Members thereof are his Subjects. He may take in his Body natural, Lands or Tenements, as Heir to any of his Ancestors; and also in this Capacity may *purchase* to him and his Heirs, and his Heirs shall retain it, notwithstanding that he is removed from the Royal Estate. And he may also take or purchase Lands or Tenements in Fee in his Body politic, that is to say, to him and to his Heirs Kings of *England*, or to him and to his Successors Kings of *England;* and so his *double Capacity* remains, as it does in other Persons who have a double Capacity, as Bishop or Dean, *&c.* We presume that our Proprietaries hold the Manors they have laid out to themselves, and the other Lands they may have repurchased in their Province, in their private Capacities, as *Thomas Penn*, or *Richard Penn*, and not in their Capacity of Chief Governor. The Governor is pleased to allow, "that one Reason, why the King's Fee Farm Rents are taxed in *England*, may be, that the Land Tax should not fall heavier upon other Lands in the same District." It seems to us a good Reason, and to hold as well in our case. For should the Proprietaries go on encreasing their already enormous Estate, sue and recover all their Mortgages, add Field to Field, and make Purchase after Purchase, till the Number of Freeholders in the Province is reduced to a Handful; can it be thought reasonable that every Estate as it comes into their Hands shall be exempt from Taxes, and the Burden of supporting the Government, and defending the Province, thrown all upon the Remainder? And yet this must be the Case if our Distinction has, as the Governor says, "no Existence in Law or Reason."

The Governor denies that the Fees and Perquisites he enjoys are paid for Support of Government; they are, he says, "only moderate Fees consented to be fixed by Law, as Considerations for the Business done; and the Public-house Licenses, which are the chief of them, were originally granted by Charter." This latter Assertion is quite unintelligable to us. We can find no such Grant in the Royal Charter, nor can we conceive how the Proprietary can grant a Fee to himself by his own Charter. The Governor is a Stranger here, and may be unacquainted with the Rise and Establishment of what is called the *Support of Government* among us. He will therefore permit us to relate it to him, as we have received it from our Ancestors, and find Traces of it on our Records. When the first Settlers purchased Lands from the Proprietary, he demaned, besides the Consideration Money, that a Quitrent should be reserved and paid to him and his Heirs yearly for ever. They objected against this as a disagreeable and unreasonable Encumbrance; but were told, that the Proprietary being also Governor, though he took the Purchase Money for the Land as Proprietary, he reserved the Quitrents to be paid for his Support as Governor; for that Government must be supported, and these Quitrents would be the most equal and easy Tax, and prevent the Necessity of other Taxes for that Purpose here, as they did in the King's Government of *Virginia.* These Reasons induced them to acquiesce in it. But the Proprietarys Affairs calling him to reside in *England*, and the Quitrents, then but few, being all wanted to support him there, a Lieutenant Governor became necessary, and also a Support for that Lieutenant, as the Proprietary, through the Necessity of his Affairs, was unable to support him. The Public-house Licenses and other Licenses and Fees were pitched upon for this *Second* Support, and by perpetual Laws were given to the Governor for the Time being. But Governors, a Sort of Officers not easily satisfied with Salary, complaining that these were insufficient to maintain suitably the

Dignity of their Station, occasional Presents were added from Time to Time; and those at Length came to be expected as of Right, which, if conceded to, and established by, the People, would have made a *third* Support. Our Situation at this Time is, that the present Proprietaries claim, and enjoy the Quitrents (which were the *first* Support) as Part of their private Estate, and draw them to *England* where they reside, remote from their Government, supplying their Place here by a Lieutenant. The Lieutenant takes and enjoys the License Money, and other Perquisites, which were the *second* Support, and though he has from *Thirty Shillings* to *Three Pounds* for writing his Name only (the Secretary being paid *Six Shillings* besides for the License and Seal) says, they are *only moderate Fees in Consideration for Business done.* And now if we do not regularly give those additional Presents, which were only the Marks of our Good-will, and Tokens of the Satisfaction we had in a Governor's Administration, every Thing else that a Governor enjoys is forgot, and we are charged both at Home and Abroad with the heinous Crime of presuming to *withold the Support* of Government. Thus we see how soon Custom may become a Law, how thrifty a Thing Power is, and how hard to be satisfied. "*Claims*, as the Governor says, *will never be wanting*, and if the People will give "whenever they are required" to give, they may soon be "stripped of every Thing they have a Right to enjoy."

The Governor is pleased to acquaint us, that all the *Fees* and Prequisites of this Government do not amount, *communibus Annis, to more than a Thousand Pounds*, meaning, as we suppose, Sterling Money. This the Governor enjoys fully and freely, and we never interfere in his Disposition of it, any more than in the Proprietaries Disposition of the Quitrents. We think this a handsome Support for a Governor; and though he calls it only moderate Fees for Business done; yet if he can earn *One Thousand Pounds* Sterling a Year in such Fees, the Business must certainly be a good One.

On our saying that some Proprietaries and Governors of petty Colonies assume more Prerogatives and Immunities than ever were claimed by their Royal Master, the Governor grows warm in Behalf of the Proprietaries, and demands, with all the Air of a Person conscious of being in the Right, *What Instances can you give of that assuming Behaviour in your Proprietaries?* We answer, the present Instance; for the King does not claim an Exemption from Taxes for his private Estate, as our Proprietaries do. *Have they ever claimed any Rights or Prerogatives not granted them by the*

Royal Charter, or reserved by that of their Father? Yes, the Right of being exempt from Taxes for their Estate in *Pennsylvania*, when all their Fellow-Subjects (for the Proprietaries are Subjects, though the Governor seems to distain the Term) both in *England* and *America*, not excepting even the Lords and Commons of Parliament, are now obliged to undergo, a Tax for the *Recovery of Part* and *Defence of the rest of* THAT VERY ESTATE. This Right is not granted them by the Royal Charter, nor could it be reserved by *their Father's* Charter. *Can you lay to their Charge one Instance of Injustice or Severity?* This is an Act of Injustice and Severity, to insist that the People shall not be allowed to raise Money for their own Defence, without they will agree to defend the Proprietary Estates gratis. If this be complied with, and the War continues, what shall hinder them another Year, when the *Fifty Thousand Pounds* is expended, to require, that before we are allowed to raise another Sum for the same Purpose, we shall agree not only to *defend* their Lands, but to *plough* them: For this their Lieutenant may alledge the "*Usage and Custom*" in *Germany*, and put us in Mind, that we are chiefly *Germans*. Who can assure us, that their appropriated Lands, so long kept untenanted and idle, are not reserved in Expectation of some such fortunate Opportunity? Can other Instances, in Answer to the Governor's Questions be necessary? If he thinks it discreet to insist on more, they may soon be at his Service.

We are then desired to turn our Eyes on our own Conduct, and charged in high Terms with "taking upon ourselves great and mighty Powers; dispensing with Positive Laws, and claiming a Right of disposing of all Public Money, a Right of keeping our Proceedings a Secret from the Crown, with, as the Governor is pleased to say, *many others*, unknown to an *English* Constitution, and never heard of in the other Plantations." A round Charge, but not more easily made than answered. The Governor allows, "that we have all the Powers and Privileges of an Assembly, according to the Rights of the Free-born Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*;" and we neither claim nor practice any but what is usual in some or other of them. We claim no Right of dispensing with Laws. The Right of disposing of our own Money, we think, is a natural Right, and we have enjoyed it ever since the Settlement of the Province, and constantly been in the Exercise of it in every Instance, except perhaps in a few, where, on extraordinary Occasions, we have chosen to make special Appropriation by a particular

Law. It is also possessed and practised by several other Assemblies. We have moreover the Right of disposing of the present Revenue by positive Laws, which have received the Royal Assent. This natural and legal Right, as we contend it is, was never denied us, or called in Question, as we know of, but by our present Proprietaries. Their ever hearty Friend. the late Governor's Father, who had lived many Years among us, and was skilled in our Laws, in a solemn Speech, recorded in our Minutes, mentions this as one of our *Civil* RIGHTS, among the other Happinesses of our Constitution, with which he was thoroughly acquainted. Our inserting therefore in the Bill a Clause, that the Governor should have a Voice in the Disposition of the Money intended to be raised, was partly in Consideration that the Proprietary was, by the Bill, to contribute in Proportion to his Estate, and to avoid unseasonable Disputes; but since we are daily more and more convinced that the Governor is no Friend to our Country, and takes a Pleasure in contriving all possible Methods of Expence, to exhaust our Funds, and distress our Affairs (of which the present exorbitant Demand of *Five Thousand Pounds*, besides what we have already paid, for cutting a Road, an Undertaking he engaged us in on a Computation of its costing *Eight Hundred Pounds*, and which, if this be due, must cost us about an *Hundred Pounds per* Mile) it will become us to be more particularly careful how our Public Money shall be expended, when the greatest Sums which can be raised upon this young Colony must fall so far short of what may become absolutely necessary for our common Security.

That we claim a Right of keeping our Proceedings a Secret from the Crown, another of the Governor's groundless Accusations, has been twice refuted, and is yet a third time courageously repeated; though all the Province knows that our Votes and Proceedings are every Year printed and published, and have been so for these Thirty Years past and more. Equally groundless are the [*many others*] which the Governor forbears to particularize. Could he have thought of one that had the least apparent Foundation, he would not have spared to mention it.

Plans and *Schemes of aggrandizing ourselves* the Governor has often charged us with, and now repeats the Charge. He affects to consider us as a permanent Body, or some particular Order of People in the State, capable of planning and scheming for their own particular Advantage, distinct from that of the Province in general. How groundless this must be, is easily conceived, when 'tis considered, that we are picked out from among the People by their Suffrages, to represent them for one Year only; which ended, we return again among the People, and others may be, and often are, chosen in our Places. No one of us knows a Day before the Election that he shall be chosen, and we neither bribe nor solicit the Voters. but every one votes as he pleased, and as privately as he pleases, the Election being by written Tickets folded up and put into a Box. What interest can such a Body have, separate from that of the Public? What Schemes can a Set of Men, continually changing, have, or what Plans can they form to aggrandize themselves, or to what Purpose should they have or form them? If the little Power allowed us by the Constitution was fixed in our particular Families, and to descend to our Heirs, as the Proprietary Power does in their Family, we might then be suspected of these aggrandizing Plans and Schemes, with more Appearance of Probability. But if any of us had such Schemes, the Want of a single Vote, in any Election might totally disconcert them, there being no Tenure more precarious than that by popular Esteem or Favour.

The Governor next considers what we have said relating to the Act *for raising County Rates and Levies*, and is pleased to say, that "he does not see why the Proprietary Estate in each County is not benefited in common with other Estates, and by the same Means." That the Proprietaries Estate should be excused in a County Rate, at least so far as that Rate is levied for the Payment of Assemblymens Wages, appears to us equitable; for it would seem unreasonable to tax an Estate to defray their Expences, if the Possessor had no Vote in chusing a Representative in that House. But we conceive it is widely different in a Provincial Tax, where the common Interest and Security of all are concerned; and yet the Proprietaries should purchase Estates which have usually been taxed by the County Rate and Levy Act, for that Purpose, we presume those Estates ought to continue to pay their Assessments. It was the Opinion of the Solicitor General in King WILLIAM'S Time, that the Lords had no Right to vote in the Elections of a Commoner, because they were not Contributors to the Expences of a Knight of the Shire or Burgess; and they were not Contributors to that Expence, because they were of an other House. But if they purchased Lands which were, before such Purchase, chargeable, with those Expences, those Lands should notwithstanding that Purchase, continue chargeable therewith by Law; although before the Act, the Lands the Lords were seized of, or purchased, were excused from that Charge. But though such Lands were excused from *these* Rates, will any One from thence alledge, that the Lords are exempted from paying the *Natural Taxes?* As for the rest of the Expences provided for by that Act, we thought, as the Proprietary cultivated no Lands in any of the Counties, but let them lie for a Market, he had probably no Sheep that might suffer by Wolves, Poultry by Foxes, or Corn by Crows and Blackbirds, *&c.* and therefore might reasonably be excused from those Taxes that were to raise Money to destroy such vermin. But on further Consideration, we are willing to give up that Point to the Governor, and agree that their Estates may on other Considerations be equally benefited; concluding withal, *that they ought therefore equally to pay.* For as to the *Conditions of Consent* the Governor mentions, they are merely imaginary, though the Governor speaks of them with the same apparent Assurance as if he had the Contract between the then Governor and Assembly under Hand and Seal in his Possession. The exempting Proviso in that Act, the Governor says, is "declarative of the Rights of the Proprietaries *Station*, of which the People in general might be ignorant." Be it so then; and let us see what are the Words, "*Provided also, that the Proprietary and Governor's proper Estate shall not be liable to be rated or assessed by Virtue of* THIS *Act.*" We submit. Their Estate must not be taxed by Virtue of *that* Act, for the Purposes intended by *that* Act:—— 'Tis the Right of their Station, it seems. But is this a Reason, why they should not be taxed by *any other* act for *any other* Purposes, or by another Act for the same Purposes, when it shall become reasonable and necessary?

There is in the same Act an Exemption from the same Tax, of all "unsettled Tracts or Parcels of Land," belonging to any Person whatsoever. Is this too, "*declarative of the Right of such Landholders Station*," and does it expressly declare, that those Gentlemen are "*not liable to Taxes?*" If so why did not the Governor object to that Part of our Bill likewise, which proposes to tax all located Lands, on this Occasion, whether settled or unsettled. Those plain Words, *The Proprietary Estate shall not be liable to be rated by Virtue of* THIS *Act*, must be stretched on the Rack before they can be extended, as the Governor extends them, to a general Declaration, "*that the Proprietary Estate is not liable to Taxes.*" But he is a dexterous Disputer, and can at Pleasure change the Meaning of the plainest Words, and make them signify more or less, as it suits his Purpose.—— As, for another Instance, we had asked this Question, "Whether supposing the Proprietary Estate to be taxed, it would be equitable that he should have a Negative in the Choice of the Assessors, since that would give him *Half* the Choice, though he were to pay perhaps not a *Hundredth Part* of the Tax?" The Governor eagerly lays hold of these very loose and uncertain Words ["though he *were* to pay PERHAPS not a Hundredth Part"] which are introduced merely for the Argument Sake, and construes them into a *Determination* of what would be the Proprietaries Proportion, which he is pleased to agree to, by telling us, "*I think* WITH YOU *that the Proprietary Tax would not be more than a Hundredth Part of the Whole.*" when 'tis plain we had no Thought at all of fixing any Proportion to be paid by the Proprietary Estate, or any other Estate being destitute of the proper Informations, and having by the Bill left that Matter to the Commissioners and Assessors, who were to have before them the Constables Returns, and to be sworn, or solemnly affirmed, to do equal Justice, after informing themselves of the Value of Estates in the best Manner they could, by all the Means in their Power. But had we mentioned *Thousandth* or *Ten Thousandth* Part, we make no Doubt the Governor would have been complaisant enough to *think with us* in that Particular, though we should differ in every Thing else.

The Governor "cannot easily conceive," he is pleased to say, "that a Negative upon a Choice is Half that Choice, or indeed any Part of it." We think a Negative may be in Effect more than Half the Choice, and even amount to the Whole, if it be repeated till there is no Choice left but that which the Possessor of the negativing Power Chuses. The Peers of *Great-Britian* have no Vote nor can they intermeddle in the Election of a Commoner; and yet the Commons claim it as a fundamental Right to subject their Estates to Taxes by a Bill, the Whole of which the Lords must either refuse or pass. And that august Body, who contribute so largely to the Public Stock, acquiesce in it as a sufficient Security for their Estates. But our Proprietaries are unhappily of different Sentiments, and cannot think themselves safe, unless their whole Estate here be entirely exempted, and the Burden of defending it become an additional Weight to the Taxes on our Mother Country, and on the Freemen of this and the neighbouring Colonies.

The Governor is grievously offended at an Expression in our Message, that we have in our Bill ALLOWED *him a Share*, in the Disposition of the *Fifty Thousand Pounds;* and thunders over us in a Storm of angry Questions, "Is it from *you*, Gentlemen, that I derive the Right of governing this Province, or from your *Allowance* that I have a Voice in the Legislature? Are you the sovereign Disposers of Power? Have *you* the Right to give and take away at Pleasure? If not, Whence that lofty Claim of *Allowing* your Governor a Share in the Disposition of the Public Money?"—— If the Governor will but have a little Patience, we shall endeavour, by a few cool sober Questions, to explain this Matter to him as well as we are able. Are not all Money Bills to take their rise in the House? Can he possibly have any Share in the Disposition of public Money if it is not raised? and can it be raised without our Allowance? Has the Governor a Right to make any Amendments to a Money Bill? If, therefore, a Clause is put into such Bill, giving him a Voice in the Disposition of our Money, must not such Clause be first *allowed* by us to be inserted? To what Purpose then were all those haughty Questions! We shall answer them in few Words. We *are not* "the sovereign Disposers of Power;" nor does the Governor "derive *from us* the Right of governing this Province:" It were a vain Thing in us to say it, since his being our Governor would alone be a sufficient Proof to the contrary.

The Governor is pleased to say, that he studiously avoided every Thing that could renew the Disputes subsisting between us; and earnestly recommended the same Temper of Mind to us. This may be right, so far as relates to his first Speech at the Opening of the Session; but in his Amendments to our Bill, it appeared to us, that he studiously proposed every Thing that he thought could disgust us, in Hopes of engaging us in some other Dispute than that on taxing the Proprietaries Estate, and of making the Bill with the Session ineffectual and abortive. Why else, among other Things, did he strike out that harmless Part of the Preamble, which gave as a Reason for the Bill, the Exhausting of our Treasury by our late expensive Grants of Provisions, *&c.* to the King's Use. He did not chuse the Bill should mention any Thing we had done, lest by that Means it should reach the Royal Ear, and refute his repeated Accusations that we "had done nothing, nor would do any Thing, for the Defence of the Country;" when he knows in his Conscience we have given all in our Power; and it was well we had it in our Power to give something, otherwise neither the *British* nor *New-England* Troops would have had the Provisions we furnished; for could the Governor possibly have done it, we have Reason to believe he would have defeated our Grant: He can no more bear to let us *do* any

Thing commendable, than he can bear to *hear* what we have done mentioned.

It is true, the Governor recommended a good Temper of Mind to us: He can make plausible Speeches, that will read well in other Places where his Conduct is not known. Indeed they appear not so much to be made for us as for others; to shew the Ministry at Home his great Zeal for his Majesty's Service and Concern for the Welfare of this People! and to recommend himself, as it should seem, to some better Post hereafter, rather than to obtain the present Points that seem to be persuaded. For of what Avail are the best Speeches, not accompanied with suitable Actions? He has recommended *Dispatch* in very good Words, and immediately hatched some Dispute to occasion *Delay*. He can recommend *Peace* and *Unanimity* in fine and moving Language, and immediately contrive something to provoke and excite *Discord;* the settled Scheme being, not to let us do any Thing that may recommend us to those with whom he would ruin us. He would appear to be in great Earnest to have something done, and spurs violently with both Heels, but takes Care at the same Time to rein-in strongly with both Hands, lest the Public Business before us should go forward. When we offered him to raise Money on the Excise, a Method long in Use, and found easy to the People, he quarrelled with us about the Time of extending the Act, complained it would raise too little, and yet was for shortening the Term. Obsolete Instructions were mustered up against it, though Acts of the same Kind had been since passed by the Crown. Acts of Parliament made for other Colonies were to be enforced here, and the like. Then he called out for a Tax, which the Proprietaries themselves (in their Answer to our Representation) allowed to be the most equitable Way of raising Money; thinking, it is like, that we should never agree to a Tax. But now when we offer an equitable Tax on all Estates real and personal, he refuses that, because the Proprietaries are to be taxed!

The Governor thinks himself injuriously treated by our Request, "that he would not make himself the hateful Instrument of reducing a free People to the abject State of Vassalage," and asks, "What Grounds have you, Gentlemen, for this heavy Charge? What Laws of Imposition, abhorrent to common Justice and common Reason, have I attempted to force down your Throats? *&c.*"—— A Law to tax the People of *Pennsylvania* to defent the Proprietary Estate, and to exempt the Proprietary Estate from bearing any Part of the

Tax, is, may it please the Governor, a Law *abhorrent to common Justice, common Reason, and common Sense.* This is a Law of Imposition, that the Governor would force down our Throats, by taking Advantage of the Distress of our Country, the Defence of which he will not suffer us to provide for, unless we will comply with it.—— Our Souls rise against it. We cannot swallow it.—— What other Instance would the Governor desire us to give of his endeavouring to reduce us to a State of Vasselage? He calls upon us for an Instance. We give him the very Law in Question, as the strongest of Instances. Vassals must *follow* their Lords to the Wars in Defence of their Lands; our Lord Proprietary, though a Subject like ourselves, would *send* us out to fight *for* him, while he keeps himself a thousand Leagues remote from Danger! Vassles fight at their Lords Expence, but our Lord would have us defend his Estate at our own Expence! This is not merely Vassalage, it is worse than any Vassleage we have heard of; it is something we have no adequate Name for; it is even more slavish than Slavery itself. And if the Governor can accomplish it, he *will be* deemed the hateful Instrument (how much soever he is disgusted with the Epithet) as long as History can preserve the Memory of his Administration. Does the Governor think to exculpate himself, by calling upon us to prove him guilty of Crimes we have never charged him with? *Whose Liberty have I taken away? Whose Property have I invaded?* If he can force us into this Law, the Liberty and Property, not only of one Man, but of all the Men in the Province, will be invaded and taken away; and this to aggrandize our *intended Lord*, encrease and secure his Estate at our Cost, and give him the glorious Privilege that no *British* Nobleman enjoys, of having his Lands free from Taxes, and defended gratis. But what is the Loss of even Liberty and Property, compared with the Loss of our good Name and Fame, which the Governor has, by every Artifice, endeavoured to deprive us of, and to ruin us in the Estimation of all Mankind. Accusations secretly dispersed in the neighbouring Provinces and our Mother Country; nameless Libels put into the Hands of every Member of Parliament, Lords and Commons! But these were modest Attacks compared with his public Messages, filled with the most severe and heavy Charges against us, without the least Foundation; such as those in his Message of the Sixteenth of *May* last; some of which, though then fully refuted, he now ventures to renew, by exclaiming in these Terms. "Had you any Regard for your bleeding Country, would you have been *deaf* to all the affectionate Warnings and Calls of his Majesty? and would you have *refused* the proper, necessary and timely Assistance to an Army sent to protect these Colonies?" For is it not well known that we have essayed every Method, consistent with our Rights and Liberties, to comply with the Calls of the Crown, which have frequently been defeated either by Proprietary Instructions or the Perverseness of our Governor? Did we not supply that Army plentifully withall they asked of us, and even more than all? in Testimony of which, have we not Letters from the late General, and other principal Officers, acknowledging our Care, and thanking us cordially for our Services? These Things are well known here: But there is no Charge that the Governor cannot allow himself to throw out against us, so it may have the least Chance of gaining some small Credit some where, though of the shortest Continuance.

In Fine, we are sincerely grieved at the present unhappy State of our Affairs; but must endeavour patiently to wait for that Relief which Providence may, in due Time, think fit to favour us with, having, if this Bill is still refused, very little farther Hopes of any Good from our present Governor"

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* and *John Wright* do wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the Bill for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, the Proposal for paying the Proprietaries Tax, and the two following Messages, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

SEVERAL Gentlemen, Inhabitants of this City, "observing with Concern, that the Governor and Assembly differ in Opinion, in respect to taxing the Proprietary Estate, left by such Difference in Opinion the Bill for raising *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for his Majesty's Service should not take Effect. —— rather than the least Check should be given to his Majesty's Service at this Time of imminent Danger by a Sum so very trifling as they apprehend the Proprietary's Share of the Provincial Tax might amount to, have petitioned our House, and engaged to pay *Five Hundred Pounds* in Behalf of the Proprietaries, into the Public Stock for the King's Use; being well assured (as they alledge) that it would have been altogether unnecessary were the Proprietaries themselves present; and that they do not doubt they will honourably acquit every Subscriber of that Expence." May it please the Governor, the Presumption that it will be agreeable to our

Proprietaries, and their apparent Interest, to pay their proportionable Part of this burdensome but necessary Tax, and must arise from the supposed Equity of levying it upon their Estates as well as all others within this Province; and therefore as we have no Power to compound for the Share any Estate shall pay, which is to be determined equitably by Assessors, under their Qualifications, and as we are not an incorporated Body to sue to be sued, we herewith send their Petition, and the respective Sums for which they have subscribed, amounting to *Five Hundred* and *Two Pounds Ten Shillings,* as a further Security to the Governor, not doubting those Gentlemen are legally bound, and that their Estates are sufficient to discharge their Contracts. And under this further Security, we hope the Governor will now chearfully give his Assent to our Bill.

Signed, by Order of the House,

August 19, 1755. *A. M.* ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have considered the Governor's Message of this Day, relating to the Orders sent by General *Shirley* to Colonel *Dunbar;* and are of Opinion, that the Bill herewith sent up to the Governor, may, if he thinks fit to give it his Assent, enable him to do every Thing that can reasonably be expected from this Government on this Occasion. We therefore once more earnestly request him to enact it into a Law.

Signed by Order of the House,

August 19, 1755. ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, the three Messages of the House, and the Proposal for paying the Proprietaries Tax, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

An Account from *Robert Thompson*, Esq; of *Lancaster*, for Cash paid by him for Horse-hire, for an Express sent by the Governor to Colonel *Dunbar*, amounting to *One Pound Ten Shillings*, was laid before the House and read, and allowed; and an Order was drawn on the Treasurer for Payment of the same.

An Order was likewise drawn on the Treasurer for the Payment of *Ten Pounds Seven Shillings* and *Four-pence* to

Conrad Weiser, being the Balance of an Account allowed by the House in *December* last.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of the Sixteenth Instant, relating to the Exportation of Provisions to the *French*, being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *James Pemberton*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *George Ashbridge* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message relating to the Exportation of Provisions to the *French*, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Message to the Governir being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have considered the Governor's Message of the 16th Instant, with the Extract from Governor *Lawrence's* Letter to Governor *Phips*, in which it is observed "That if the excellent Laws prohibiting the Transportion of Provisions to *Louisburg* continue in Force for two Months longer, there is a Probability that the Governor of that Place will be obliged to present the Keys of the Garrison to Mr. *Boscawen*." And our Governor is pleased to recommend it to us, to think of some proper Law that may most effectually prevent their being supplied from this Province: But as an Act passed this House, and received the Governor's Assent, at our last Sitting, entituled, *An Act to continue an Act*, entituled, *An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, naval or warlike Stores, from this Province to* Cape-Breton, *or to any other Dominions of the* French *King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects*, by which the Act continued will be in Force at least Ten Months to come, and has been, as far as we know, effectual for the Purposes intended; and as the Governor has not pointed out to us any Defect in that Act, nor has any occurred to us, we cannot at present think what Law can be made more effectually to prevent that Place being supplied with Provisions, *&c.* from this Province."

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joshua Morris* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon Governor, and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright*, *David M'Connaughy* and *Moses Starr* wait upon the Governor with the following Message, *viz.*

"The House met on the Twenty-third of last Month, on the Governor's Summons, in an Affair of the highest Consequence to the Welfare of this Province, and the other Colonies on the Continent of *North-America*. We considered the Importance of the present Situation of our Affairs, and sent up a Bill to the Governor for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use. This Bill has been repeatedly under his Consideration ever since the Second Instant, so that he must be fully acquainted with the Bill, and his own Sentiments upon it; we therefore earnestly request, that he would now give us a positive Answer, whether he will or will not assent to the Bill as it lies before him."

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that as his Council were now sitting, he would acquaint them with the Message of the House, and return an Answer to the House this Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary.

SIR,

THE *Governor having by Message of the Fourteenth Instant informed you, that he did not think it consistent with his Power or Trust to pass the Bill for raising* Fifty Thousand Pounds, *without the Amendments he had made to it, and that he adhered to those Amendments; is surprized at your Message of this Day, to which he can only say, that he thinks it his Duty to adhere still to the Amendments he made to that Bill.*

The Secretary also brought down the Bill for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and laid before the House some Accounts for *Indian* Expences, which he informed the House wee delivered to the Governor by *Scarroyady's* Wife; and the same was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'ON the Ninth Instant I recommended to you to establish a Militia for the Safety and Defence of the Province, and having frequently before recommended the same Thing, but received no Answer, I then desired you would give me an explicit Answer upon the Subject.

I do therefore now call upon you, and insist on a plain and categorical Answer, whether you will or will not establish a Militia, that his Majesty and his Ministers may be informed whether, at this Time of Danger, the Province of *Pennsylvania* is to be put into a Posture of Defence or not.

Philadelphia, August 21, 1755. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Governor's Message of the Sixteenth Instant, relating to the Striking of Paper Currency upon the present Emergency, and the Governor's verbal Message of To-day, were again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Benjamin Franklin* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Two Accounts from *Samuel Neave*, for Goods furnished the *Indians* now in Town, being given by the Secretary to the Speaker, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Sixteenth Instant, relating to the Striking of Paper Currency, and to his verbal Message of this Day, reported the same to the House, and it was read, approved, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts made the following Report in Writing, *viz.*

WE have examined the several Accounts of the Labourers employed in cutting the Road towards the Ohio, laid before the House by the Secretary, and finding the Commissioners appointed by the Governor for that Service have not exhibited any Account to him, nor any Proofs that the Persons applying have really been employed in that Work, and the Charges made by them are very extravagant: We do not think ourselves justifiable in making them any Allowance till the Commissioners produce their Accounts; which we nevertheless submit to the House.

Eighth Month 22, 1755.

WILLIAM CALLENDER, EVAN MORGAN,
JOSEPH STRETCH, JAMES PEMBERTON."

The Committee of Accounts also reported on *John Harris's* Account, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed, amounting to *Thirteen Pounds Four Shillings* and *Sixpence;* to which the House agreed.

The Committee of Accounts likewise reported, that they had examined the two Accounts from *Samuel Neave*, and were of Opinion. that one of the said Accounts, amounting to *One Hundred* and *Fourteen Pounds Two Shillings* and *Ten-pence*, being nearly agreeable to the Sum voted by the House as a Present to the *Indians* now in Town, ought to be allowed by the House. But that as to the other Account, amounting to *Fifty-seven Pounds Five Shillings* and *Six-pence*, the Committee were of Opinion, that it ought to be returned to *Samuel Neave*, to be paid by those who gave Orders for purchasing the Goods therein mentioned.—— To which Report the House agreed.

Orders were drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for the Payment of *John Harris's* Account, of *Thirteen Pounds Four Shillings* and *Sixpence*, and *Samuel Neave's* Account of *One Hundred* and *Fourteen Pounds Two Shilings* and *Ten-pence.*

The House resuming the Consideration of the several Petitions from the Frontier Townships, setting forth their present dangerous Situation, and that many of the poorer Inhabitants were unarmed, and unable to purchase Arms for Defense of their Houses and Families.——it was

Resolved, That a Sum not exceeding *One Thousand Pounds*, if so much be in the Treasury at the Disposition of this House by the Laws in Force, shall be paid into the Hands of *Isaac Norris*, *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *John Wright*, to be by them disposed of (with the Consent and Approbation of the Governor of this Province) for the King's Use, in such Manner as to the said *Isaac Norris*, *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *John Wright*, or to the Majority of them, shall appear necessary.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE Governor was pleased, in his Message of the Fourteenth Instant, to tell us, that "he was not *yet* satisfied it was in his Power, or consistent with his Trust, to pass our Bill without his Amendments, *whatever he might be when he heard what we proposed to say to him on that Head;*" and we understood those Words to express a Suspension of his Determination for that Time. We since sent him a long Message, containing the Reasons of our Judgment, that it was both in his Power, and consistent with his Trust, to pass the Bill without those Amendments; and yet, in Answer to our Message of Yesterday, requesting his final Resolution, he is only pleased to say, that he is surprized at such a Message, having told us in his said Message of the Fourteenth, that he adhered to his Amendments.—— We cannot see the Reasons of the Governor's Surprize on this Occasion, since from all that had passed between us, and especially as he had not then sent down our Bill, we think the Governor could not but expect such a Message from us.

The Governor thought fit in his Message of the Sixteenth to acquaint us, "That he would readily pass a Bill for striking any Sum in Paper-Money the present Exigency may require, provided Funds are established for sinking the same in Five Years."

But as we have no Funds capable of sinking so great a Sum in Five Years, without the Assistance of an equitable Tax, to which the Governor would still have his Objections in Favour of the Proprietary Estate; and the Proposal of striking Paper Money might lead us again into many Disputes, which we chose, by the Form of this Bill, to avoid, agreeable to the Governor's Advice in his Speech at the Opening of the Session; we, in our Turn, should be *surprized* to receive such a Proposal now from him, if we had the least Reason to think he was sincerely desirous of having any Thing done for the Defence of the Province.

Being now convinced, that no farther Benefit to the Country can arise from our continuing longer together at this Time; and being under a Necessity of meeting again in a few Weeks to settle the Accounts of the Year, we take Leave to acquaint the Governor, that we incline to adjourn this Day to the Fifteenth of *September* ensuing, if he hath no Objection to that Time.

August 22, 1755. *Signed by Order of the House,*
ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker."

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Thomas Cummings* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the foregoing Message, together with the following one, in Answer to the Governor's Messages relating to a Militia, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

IN our Message of the Thirty-first of *December* last, we returned an Answer to the Request the Governor then made, "that we would provide for the Defence and Safety of the Province, not only by affording such Aids as his Majesty from Time to Time might require, but by extablishing a regular Militia within this Province, and providing Arms and Stores of War, and building proper Magazines in the most convenient Places." And we have now again reconsidered that Message. and his other Messages of the Ninth, Fifteenth and Twenty-first Instant, wherein we are told that we are still without a Militia, or the necessary Means of Defence. The Elections throughout the Province are near at Hand, and our Assemblies may hereafter consider whether it will be of any real Advantage to establish a regular Militia by Law.—— But as we find by the Governor's Result upon our Bill for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, he cannot think it consistent with the Trust reposed in him by the Proprietaries to pass that Bill, we find by Experience that it can answer no good Purpose to waste our Time in preparing Bills for his Assent, in which, for the common Security and Defence of the Province, we apprehend it would be a high Breach of the Trust reposed in us to exclude the Proprietaries Estate from bearing any Part of the Burthen, and if not excluded, as the Governor asserts, must at last be rejected by him for Want of sufficient Powers in his Commission; and therefore (had we no other Objections) we hope the Governor will judge it reasonable, after so many repeated Refusals of the Bills we have offered to him for granting large Sum of Money for the Knig's Use, that we now wait the Determination of our Superiors what Powers he has, or ought to have, as our Governor under the Royal and Provincial Charters, and what exclusive Rights our Proprietaries may be justly intitled to in the Laying and Levying of Taxes for the common Security and Defence of their Estates with all the other Estates within this Province.

In the mean time we have taken Care to answer the Petitions from the Inhabitants of the several Parts of this Province, recommended to us in the Governor's Message of the Fifteenth Instant, in the best Manner we are able, which we hope will be satisfactory to them, and a Proof of the Care we have for the Ease and Safety, as well as the just Rights of those we represent.

August 22, 1755. *P. M.* *Signed by Order of the House,*
ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker."

The Committee of Accounts reported on the several Accounts for *Indian* Expences, which were Yesterday laid before the House by the Secretary, as follows, *viz.*

Province of Pennsylvania, Dr.

For Expences on sundry Indians *on their Journey to* Philadelphia, August 1755.

To *James M'Gill*, Butcher, per Account, dated at *Carlisle*, for Meat, *&c.* for *Jagrea*, ...	£6	4	9
To *William Buchanan*, of *Carlisle*, for Sundries for *Jagrea*, and others, ...	5	6	0
To *Adam Terrence*,- Account for pasturing of Horses and other Expences, ...	3	10	10
To *Joseph Pugh*, of *Lancaster*, *per* Account, ...	4	0	4
To *John Hambright*, *at the White Horse*, ...	0	19	0
To *Samuel Scott*, *per* Account, ...	2	18	8
To *Anne Miller*, *per* Account, ...	1	7	6
To *Anne Caldwell*, *per* Account, ...	1	10	0
To *Thomas Parkes*, ...	1	3	0
To an Account for Dinner, Rum and Wine, ...	1	6	10
To *Joseph Bishop*, for Dinners for 42 *Indians*, and Cyder for Ditto, ...	1	0	0
	£29	6	11

We have examined the several Accounts relating to the *Indian* Expences, of which the above is a List, amounting to *Twenty-nine Pounds Six Shillings* and *Eleven-pence*, which we do not think are so well attested as they should be, but are of Opinion it may be best to allow them, and submit the same to the House.

August 22, 1755.

EVAN MORGAN, JOSEPH STRETCH,
JOSEPH FOX, GEORGE ASHBRIDGE."
JAMES PEMBERTON,

The Committee of Accounts, likewise reported, that it appeared, by an Account laid before the House with the foregoing, that the Sum of *One Pound Nineteen Shillings* was due to the Province from *Conrad Weiser*, being paid him by the Governor, and charged by the Governor to the House.

The Petition from *Andrew Montour*, *Indian* Interpreter, being again read, and considered,

Resolved, That the Sum of *Fifty Pounds* be now given to the said *Montour*, as a Present from this House, in Consideration of his Losses in the Service of the Army under the late General *Braddock*.—— And it was likewise

Resolved, That the Sum of *Ten Pounds* be given as a Present from this House to *Scarroyady*, and the late *Half-King's* Son, two *Indians*, now in Town, who were on the Side of the *English*, in the Battle at *Mohongahela*.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Five Pounds* be also given to the *Indian Jagrea*, who came down to Town in Company with the *Owendaets*.

An Order was drawn on the Treasurer for the Sum granted to *Andrew Montour*, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

An Order was likewise drawn on the Treasurer, payable to *Conrad Weiser*, for the Sums granted *Scarroyady*, the *Half-King's* Son, and *Jagrea*, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they waited on the Governor, and delivered the Messages of the House according to Order; and withal acquainted him with the proposed Time of Adjournment, to which the Governor was pleased to say, he had no Objection to that Time more than any other Time; but if he found that the House had not given him a satisfactory Answer to his Messages relating to a Militia, he should call them again immediately.

Then the House adjourned to the Fifteen Day of *September* next.

THE House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter* and *James Pemberton* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met according to their Adjournment, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he believed he should have something to communicate to the House, and, if he found he had, he should to it by Way of a Message.

It being moved, that the Bill for directing the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of *Chester*, *Lancaster*, &c. was expired, and that it would be necessary to have the same continued for a further Term.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Joseph Hamton*, *George Ashbridge*, *Nathaniel Pennock* and *Calvin Cooper* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for that Purpose.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Evan Morgan*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge* and *Calvin Cooper* be a Committee to inspect and settle the Accounts of the Incidental Charges of the current Year.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from *Stephen Carpenter*, of the *Northern Liberties*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner's Servant-Man, named *John Frederick Corn*, having about two Years and eight Months to serve did, in or about the Month of *March* last, run away, and inlist himself a Soldier in General *Braddock's* Army; that the said Servant is now in *Philadelphia* a Soldier in Colonel *Dunbar's* Regiment, unto whom the Petitioner applied in order to have the said Servant discharged, but the Colonel told him that he could not discharge the said Servant, by Reason he was inlisted in the Life-time of General *Braddock;* the Petitioner therefore prays that this House would take the Premises into Consideration, and grant him such Relief therein as they in their Wisdom shall see meet. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

A Bill to continue an Act, entituled, *An Act for directing the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of* Chester, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks *and* Northampton, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Sundry Accounts for *Indian* Expences were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Several Letters from the Agents of this Province, residing in *England*, were laid before the House and read.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from *James Lindsay*, amounting to *Twelve Pounds Five Shillings* and *Four-pence*, and another from *James M'Cord*, amounting to *One Pound Five Shillings*, for

Work done on the *Ohio* Road, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

A general Account from the Governor (including the Balances of his several Accounts heretofore exhibited to the House) for *Indian* and other Expences, amounting to *Five Hundred Ninety-one Pounds Five Shillings* and *One Penny*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Bill to continue an Act, entituled, *An Act for directing the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of* Chester, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks *and* Northampton was read the second time and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjouned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act to continue an Act*, entituled, *An Act for directing the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties* of Chester, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks *and* Northampton, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Jonathan Ingham* and *Joseph James* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the said Bill according to Order.

Upon Motion made, it was

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* and *Calvin Cooper* wait upon the Governor with the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR

AS the House cannot now long continue together, their Year being near expired, they are desirous that if the Governor has any Business of Importance to lay before them, he would be pleased to let them have it soon under their Consideration; and particularly, if any Application has been made to him by the Eastern Governments for a farther Supply of Provisions from this Province for the King's Forces now gone towards *Crown-Point*.

September 17, 1755, *P. M*, *Signed by Order of the House*

ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

An Account from *Conrad Weiser*, for his Expences and Trouble in attending the *Indians* lately in Town on their Return from *Philadelphia* to *Harris's Ferry, &c.* amounting to *Sixty-one Pounds Two Shillings* and *Seven-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

An Account from *John Harris*, of *Paxton*, amounting to *Forty-seven Pounds Seven Shillings* and *Eight-pence* for *Indian* Expences at his House, and a Letter from the said *Harris*, desiring some Allowance may be made him for the Damage the *Indians* have done to his Corn, Orchard, *&c.* and for his Trouble in attending them, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

An Account from *Thomas Jervis*, for sundry Expences of *Adam Terrence* and *Andrew Montour*, *Indian* Interpreters, lately in Town with the *Indians*, amounting to *Forty Pounds Eight Shillings* and *Five-pence*, was laid before the House, read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

An Account from the Overseers of the Poor of the City of *Philadelphia*, for the Maintenance of the Soldiers Wives, wherein they make the Province Debtor of *Fifty-seven Pounds Eleven Shillings* and *Eleven-pence*, expended on the said Women, and give the Province Credit for *Fifty Pounds*, received of the Trustees of the Loan-Office, and *Twelve Pounds Four Shillings*, of Colonel *Dunbar*, being the *Shilling* a Week stopped out of the Soldiers Pay for the Support of their Wives, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary.

SIR,

I am commanded by the Governor to inform the House, that the Government of Massachusetts-Bay *having ordered Two Thousand Eight Hundred Men to be immediately raised in that Province; in addition to the Fifteen Hundred Men raised before for the Reduction of* Crown-Point, *on the Eighth Instant the Council and Assembly there desired Lieutenant Governor* Phips *to request of this Government an immediate Supply of Provisions for those Troops, which they desire may be sent to* Albany; *and he Yesterday received a Letter from Governor* Phips, *making the Request accordingly.*

The Governor has also been informed, that the Government of Connecticut *have raised Fifteen Hundred Men, and* Rhode-Island *One Hundred and Fifty Men, in Addition to the Forces sent by those Governments against* Crown-Point, *who will* *also stand in Need of a Supply of Provisions. He therefore recommends these Matters to your Consideration.*

The Secretary likewise brought down three Letters from *Conrad Weiser*, relating to *Indian* Affairs, which were read.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Grubb* and *Joseph Armstrong* wait upon the Governor with the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

BY the Governor's verbal Message of this Morning we find he has received a Letter from Lieutenant-Governor *Phips*, requesting of this Government an immediate Supply of Provisions for the Troops raised in the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay* for the Reduction of *Crown-Point;* and likewise that he has been informed, that the Governments of *Connecticut* and *Rhode Island* have also raised an additional Number of Forces for the same Purpose; as we propose to take these Matters under our immediate Consideration, we request the Governor would be pleased to lay the said Letter from Governor *Phips*, and what other Information he may have received relating to this Province's furnishing them with provisions, before us, as has been usual on the like Occasions.

September 18, 1755. *Signed by Order of the House,*
ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to Wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had Orders from the Secretary of State, not to lay before the House any Papers but such as he pleased; and, that if the Speaker, or some of the Members, would come to him, he would shew them such Parts of the Letters and Papers he had received from the Eastward, as he should think his Majesty's Service required.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Grubb*, *Peter Worral* and *Joseph Armstrong* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that as the Governor, in Answer to the Message from the House this Morning, has been pleased to say, that he had Orders from the Secretary of State not to lay before the House any Papers but such as he pleased; the House request the Governor would therefore be pleased to favour them with a Sight of the said Orders.

And the said Members were likewise ordered to enquire if the Governor had come to any Result upon the Bill relating to the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of *Chester*, *Lancaster*, *&c.*

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of Yesternight, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should send a Message down to the House in Answer thereto; and that he had given the Bill relating to the Choice of Inspectors to the Attorney-General, to examine and compare with the former Act, who had not as yet made any Report to him thereon.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN.

'IN Answer to your Message of Yesterday Morning, I informed you by your Messengers, that I had Directions from the Secretary of State not to lay Letters before you, Messages from me being, in his Judgment, a sufficient Foundation for you to proceed upon: and I informed you by the same Messengers, that, if your Speaker, or a few of your Members, would attend me, I would communicate to them, for the Satisfaction of the House, such Parts of the Information I had received from the Eastward as his Majesty's Service required; and in the Evening you requested me to lay before you the Secretary of State's Order to me upon that Head; this I think improper for me to do, as such Orders are intended for my own Government, and for which I am accountable to those from whom I received them.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, September 19, 1755.

The Secretary likewise brought down the Accounts of the Commissioners for making the Road towards the *Ohio*, and acquainted the House, that one of the said Commissioners was now in Town, and ready to inform the House of any Matters they may see Cause to enquire into relating to the said Accounts.

And the same were read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

A Petition from *Peter Schaur*, of the County of Lancaster, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that when the Forces under Colonel *Dunbar* were at *Lancaster*, in their Way to *Philadelphia*, a considerable Number of Horses and Cattle belonging to them were put into the Petitioner's Meadow, and kept there for two Days, whereby the greatest Part of the Grass in the said Meadow was destroyed; that the Damage done the Petitioner by the said Horses and Cattle was valued by *Jacob Myer*, and others, at *Eleven Pounds Seven Shillings;* the Petitioner therefore prays that this House would pay him for the Damage aforesaid.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from *John Brubacker*, of *Lancaster* County, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that a Considerable Number of Horses and Cattle, belonging to the Forces under Colonel *Dunbar*, were put into the Petitioner's Meadow, whereby a great Part of the Grass in the said Meadow was destroyed; that *Jacob Myer*, and others, have valued the Damage done the Petitioner by the said Cattle and Horses at *Eight Pounds Five Shillings;* the Petitioner therefore prays that this House would pay him for the aforesaid Damage.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

An Account from eight Constables of the City of *Philadelphia*, for attending the *Indians* lately in Town, amounting to *Eight Pounds Ten Shillings*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that several Servants and Apprentices belonging to the Petitioners have inlisted as Soldiers in the Regiment lately under the Command of Sir *Peter Halkett*, to the great Injury and Damage of the Petitioners, whose Subsistance depended, in a great Measure, on the Labour of the said Servants and Apprentices; that the Petitioners have from Time to Time applied to the Commanding Officers of the said Regiment to obtain a Discharge of the said Servants and Apprentices, but without any Success; the Petitioners therefore pray that this House would take the Premises into Consideration, and grant them such Relief as shall be thought most expedient.

The Petition from *Samuel Carpenter*, concerning his Servant being inlisted as a Soldier, was again read.

And the House taking the two foregoing Petitions into Consideration, requested *Benjamin Franklin*, one of their Members, to endeavor to prevail upon Colonel *Dunbar* to discharge the said Servants and Apprentices, or take such other Steps for that Purpose as the said Member shall judge necessary.

It being moved, that in order to give the Committee of Accounts Time to settle the Accounts relating to the *Ohio* Road, and other Public Accounts, it would be necessary for the House to adjourn for some Days.

The House accordingly adjourned to next *Third-day*, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The House being informed that *Conrad Weiser* was now in Town.

Ordered, That the said *Weiser* do attend this House To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That *Calvin Cooper* and *Peter Worral* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know, whether he has come to any Result upon the Bill now before him for continuing the Act relating to the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of *Chester*, *Lancaster*, &c.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen report, that they had waited upon the Governor, and delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had sent to the Attorney-General on *Saturday* last to know if he had finished examining the Bill relating to the Choice of Inspectors, but had as yet received no Answer from him, however that the House might expect to hear from the Governor concerning the said Bill some Time this Day.

An Account from *William Buchanan*, of *Carlisle*, for the Hire of a Horse for an Express to Fort *Cumberland*, and another from one *Ashton*, living on the *Lancaster* Road, for the Hire of a Waggon, and Horses, for the Use of some Officers of the Army who were travelling the said Road, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

Conrad Weiser attending, according to Order, was called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to him by the House, relating to the Letters he had wrote to the Governor, which were laid before the House at this Sitting, he was directed to withdraw.

The Letters to the Governor from *Conrad Weiser*, laid before the House at this Sitting, mentioning that the *Indians* lately in Town were with their Families gone to settle at *Shamokin*, and would be in Want of some Provisions for their Subsistance, being again read, and considered,

Resolved, That *Conrad Weiser* have, till the next Sitting of Assembly, Power to supply the said *Indians* with such a Quantity of the Flour belonging to this Province, now lying at and about *Harris's Ferry*, as he, the said *Weiser*, shall think is necessary; provided the said *Indians* will fetch the same themselves, without any Charge to the Province therefor.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, send down a written Message to the House, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'IN the Course of my short Administration among you, I have often regretted, that at a Time when it becomes every one of us to be consulting and acting for the Public Good, you should still delight to introduce new and unnecessary Disputes, and turn the Attention of the People from Things of the last Importance to their future Safety.

Your very tedious Message of the Nineteenth of *August*, is a sufficient Proof of your Temper of Mind; it is indeed of such an inflammatory Nature, that did not the Duties of my Station and Justice to the People required me to take some Notice of it, I should think it beneath me as Gentlemen to make any Reply to a Paper of that Kind, filled with the grossest Calumny and Abuse, as well as the most glaring Misrepresentations of Facts; and what I shall now say in Answer to it would have been said in your last Sitting, had you not adjourned yourselves so soon after the Delivery of it, that I had not Time.

You set ou with claiming it *as a Privilege to have your Bills granting Supplies passed as they are tendered, without Amendments*, and say,"*it is far from being an ordinary Method to receive or debate upon Amendments offered by the Governor.*"

This Claim is not warranted by the Words of the Charter, nor by the Usage of former Assemblies, and you yourselves must know, that from the first Settlement of the Province to the latter End of the Administration of Mr. *Hamilton*, my immediate Predecessor, the Governors have occasionally amended Bills for raising Money, and their Right of doing so was never till then contested.

Notwithstanding all you have said as to *my Offer of Lands to the Westward*, I am persuaded unprejudiced Men will see it in its true Light, and be convinced it was made with a good Intention, and under a proper Authority; I mentioned my Commission of Property in Contradistinction to the Commission of Government, as that under which I granted Lands upon the common and ordinary Occasions, which you seem to think was done under the other.—— But as to the Offer in Question, I had such Directions from the Proprietaries as were sufficient to justify me in making it, and would have been obligatory on them to confirm the same to the Adventurers; and this I did then, and still do, think a good Authority.

As you do not profess to understand Law, I am not surprized at your quoting an Abridgment instead of the Case abridged.—— *Viner*, who is no Authority, may have the Words you mention, for aught I know, and may be of Opinion that the King can purchase and hold Lands in his private Capacity, but in that he has the Misfortune to differ from my Lord *Coke*, and other Writers of Note and Authority in the Law.

Your Answers to what you call my *round Charge*, and to what you afterwards call my *haughty Questions*, are, by no Means, conclusive; I grant that no Public Money can be raised, nor any Clause enacted for the Disposition of it, without your Consent, but is not mine equally necessary? Whence is it then I should be thought more obliged to you for a voice in the Disposition of Public Money, than you are to me, seeing the Obligation (if any) is reciprocal; the Money remaining in the People's Pockets cannot be taken from thence, till I think a Law necessary for that Purpose, and shall I have less Power over it after it is raised, and in the Public Treasury, than I had before? The common Security of the People requires that they should not be taxed but by the voice of the whole Legislature, and is it not equally for their Security that the Money when raised should not be disposed of by any less Authority? Your Claim therefore of a *natural exclusive Right to the Disposition of Public Money*, because it is the People's, is against Reason, the Nature of an *English* Government, and the Usage of this Province, and you may as well claim the *exclusive Right* to all the *Powers of Government*, and set up a Democracy at once, because all Power is derived from the People; and this indeed may be the true Design.

As to what you insinuate concerning *the enormous Growth of the Proprietary Estate*, I shall oppose plain Facts to your Presumptions. By the original Concessions and Agreement between the late Mr. WILLIAM PENN, and the first Settlers, nine Tenths of the Land were to be granted to the Adventurers, and the remaining Tenth to be laid out to the Proprietary—— but instead of this, the late Proprietary, out of the Lands purchased of the *Indians* in his Time, contended himself with taking up but a very small Part of what he might have done under that Agreement; and out of the three *Indian* Purchases made by his Sons since his Death, in the two first, consisting of four Million Acres of Land, they did not survey upwards of Twenty-five Thousand Acres, and those neither of the richest nor best situated; and in the last, which is by far the largest of all, no Surveys have been made for their Use, but they gave early Directions, that the Settlers should, as they applied, take their Choice of the best Lands, and accordingly great Numbers of People are seated on these Lands, to their entire Satisfaction. As to their Manors and appropriated Tracts, it is well known that they are mostly settled by Persons without Leave or Title, and that these pay their Share of all Taxes: In short, Gentlemen, if instead of setting the Proprietaries forth as encreasing their Estates, and using their Tenants like Vassals, you had represented them as forbearing with them, and using no compulsory Methods for the Obtaining even of their just Debts, and that for these and many other Instances of their kind Usage of them, the Proprietaries are entitled to the Character of good, nay of the best, Landlords, you had done them no more than Justice, and said only what is notorious to all that know their Treatment of the People in this Province.

I can, by no Means, allow you to argue justly in saying, that the Proprietaries ought to submit their Estate to be taxed by Assessors chosen by the People, *because they are sworn or solemnly affirmed to do equal Justice.* When you are taxed by these Assessors, it is by Persons who may be considered as your Equals, and who are interested to do you Justice, as you in your Turns may become their Assessors. But the Proprietary Estate and Interest being considered as separate from yours, because the Proprietaries are a separate Branch of the Legislature, they can never in that view be taxed by any Persons, unless those whose Interest it is to save their own Estates by throwing an unequal Burden upon the Proprietaries; and you must know that this is the very Consideration upon which the Law in certain Cases excepts against both the Judgment and Evidence of interested Persons, lest they should be influenced therein, even against the Solemnity and Obligations of an Oath.

You say, that "*all Estates in* Britain, *and her Colonies, now bear, or must bear, a Tax to free the Proprietary Estate from Encroachments and Incumbrance.*" Invidious and ungrateful Insinuation! Is there nothing but this at Stake? Is it for a Tract of unsettled Country, belonging to the Proprietaries of this Province, that the Eyes of all *Europe* are turned upon this Continent, and such mightly Preparations making both by Sea and Land? Or, Gentlemen, can you think that if the Enemy are suffered to keep up Fortifications in any private

Estate whatsoever within the Limits of this Province, you could preserve your Estates, or the *English* Nation preserve its Dominions? What End then can such Insinuations serve, but to cool the Ardor of his Majesty's good Subjects in recovering the Country unjustly taken from them, as if they were contending for a Thing of no Consequence, which is but too much the Opinion of many amongst us, raised and confirmed, no Doubt, by your strange Conduct.

You charge me *with contriving all possible Methods of Expence to exhaust your Funds, and distress your Affairs*, and give an Instance of *an exorbitant Demand of* Five Thousand Pounds for cutting the Road for the Use of the Army, an *Undertaking, you say, I engaged you in on a Computation of its costing only* Eight Hundred Pounds. How could you stumble on a Matter which, on a very slight Examination, must appear to be without the least Foundation? Your own Minutes will shew that you resolved to bear the Charge of cutting two Roads, one to *Wills's* Creek, and the other to the *Mohongahelo*, and in one of your Messages to me, wherein you enumerate your meritorious Acts, and set this Road to the *Ohio* particularly forth in such a Manner as to have it believed, that it would prove an heavy Expence, which, nevertheless, you would not decline to bear as the King's Service required it; and now you insinuate, that had you known it would have cost more than *Eight Hundred Pounds*, you would not have undertaken it, and this for no other Reason than to lay to my Charge a pretended Estimate of which I am totally ignorant, having never seen nor heard of one. The Sum of *Eight Hundred Pounds* might have been mentioned as what it would cost in some Mens private Opinion, but not upon an Estimate of the Commissioners, nor as such sent to me. To be plain, Gentlemen, it was the Resentment and Menaces of the Officers in the Army, entrusted with that Part of the King's Service, because the Work was not begun in Time (and it could not have been begun sooner by me, as you would not sooner comply with my Request) it was, I say, your Dread of having proper Representations made of your Conduct at Home, and of an armed Force being used to oblige the Inhabitants to do this necessary Work, and nothing else, that induced you to engage to bear the Expence, and had the two Roads been cut they would have cost a very great Sum indeed, but by a Representation I caused to be made to the General, he consented to drop the Road to *Wills's* Creek, and instead of extending the other to the *Ohio*, to order it to be opened no farther than to the *Crow-foot* of *Ohiogainy*, which last saved the Clearing of many Miles.—— He likewise consented, that the Road should not be made so wide by one Third as the Quarter-Master General had given Directions for.—— These were great Savings to the Province, which added to the Regulations that were made in the Price of Provisions and Liquor, and in the Hire of Waggons, would at any other Time have induced you to speak in Commendation of my Care and frugal Use of the Public Money, and not to charge me with a Demand that I never made, nor indeed could it have been then made by any one, because the Accounts were not come in, and now that they are delivered to you, it does not appear that they will amount to the Sum of *Three Thousand Pounds*, which is not extravagant, when you consider the Distance and Expedition required in the Work. The Commissioners, instead of being reproached with Extravagance, have a Right to the amplest Acknowledgement for their exposing their Persons to such imminent Danger, and carrying on the Work with so much Spirit, and so becoming a Zeal; and though my Recommendations may not have much Weight with you, yet as they were engaged in this hazardous Work by my Intreaties, Justice requires they should be handsomely rewarded for their indefatigable Attendance and generous Advance of their own private Fortunes.

You have, in the Message now before me, and in several others, taken great Pains *to infuse into the Minds of the People, particularly the* Germans, that the Government have Designs to abridge them of their Privileges, and to reduce them to a State of Slavery.—— This may, and will, alienate their Affections from his Majesty's Government, destroy that Confidence in the Crown and its Delegates, which, at his Time, is paricularly necessary, and render all the Foreigners among us very indifferent as to the Success of the *French* Attempts upon this Continent, as they cannot be in worse Circumstances under them, than you have taught them to expect from the King's Government.

This you may, with your usual Confidence, call Duty, Loyalty and Affection to his Majesty, but I am convinced it will not be esteemed such as his Majesty and his Ministers, before whom all these Matters must be laid.—— And how the innocent People of this Province may be affected thereby, Time will Shew.

You are pleased to tell me, *that I am destitute of Skill and Abilities for my Station, and have not the Spirit of Government* in me. Gentlemen, I have never made any Boast of my Abilities, nor do I pretend to know what you mean by *the*

Spirit of Government. But this I know, that if I had enough *of the Spirit of Submission,* I was early given to understand by some of your Messages, that you would have then pronounced me well qualified for the Administration of this Province, even without the Assistance of Instructions, or the Advice of my Council.

To your Spirit of Government however, or, in other Words, your Inclinations to encrease and render permanent your own Power, is to be attributed all your late extraordinary Proceedings, and the defenceless State of the Province; for the Sake of gratifying this, you scruple not to stir up his Majesty's Subjects against his Government, forgetting all Duty to your Sovereign, and all Decency to those in Authority under him.

Your Answers do not exculpate you from my Charges against you *for taking on yourselves great and mighty Powers,* and since you call upon me to particularize them, I shall gratify you.—— You have created a Paper Currency of your own, and ordered the Collectors of Excise and the Trustees of the Loan-Office to receive it, against Law.—— You pay your own Wages out of the Provincial Money, when the Law requires and provides for their being paid in another Manner.—— Notwithstanding it is declared by Law, that no Persons indebted on Mortgage to the Loan-Office shall be delinquent in their Payment above a Year, and your Committees are enjoined, in the Settlement of their Accounts, to reckon all such Outstandings as Cash in the Trustees Hands, yet this your have dispensed with in the Settlement of the Trustees Accounts Year after Year, and suffered the Borrowers to continue in Arrears for Years, many of them for not less than Ten. —— A Practice tending to depreciate the Value of the Money, and greatly injurious to the Borrowers.—— And lastly, instead of the Oaths required by Law to be taken to his Majesty by all Men in Public Office, you have taken upon you to administer the Affirmation to your Clerk, and several of your own Members, though not of the People called *Quakers,* nor at all scrupulous against taking an Oath, which deprives his Majesty of the Security provided by Law to be given by such as hold Offices, or act in Public Trusts.

You have often mentioned what you have done to promote the Success of his Majesty's Arms under General *Braddock,* and for the Defence of the Province, and say, *you have Letters from the late General, thanking you for your Service;* the Truth of this I must beg Leave to question, as the late General was too honest to say one Thing to you, and another to the King's Ministers. He might acknowledge the Services of particular Men, but how you can take those to yourselves as an Assembly, when you had no Hand in what was done, I am at a Loss to know. I think it will not be doubted, but that had you in Time opened the proper Roads, raised Men, and Provided Carriages and necessary Provisions for the Troops, as this was the only Province able, in the General's Situation, to furnish him with them, we might now have been in peaceable Possession of Fort *Duquesne*.

In Fine, Gentlemen, I must remind you, that in a former Message you said you were a plain People that had no Joy in Disputation. But let your Minutes be examined for Fifteen Years past, not to go higher, and in them will be found more Artifice, more Time and Money spent in frivolous Controversies, more unparalleled Abuses of your Governors, and more Undutifulness to the Crown, than in all the rest of his Majesty's Colonies put together. And while you continue in such a Temper of Mind, I have very little Hopes of Good either for his Majesty's Service, or for the Defence and Protection of this unfortunate Country.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, September 24, 1755.

The Secretary likewise brought down the Bill relating to the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of *Chester*, *Lancaster*, &c. with the verbal Message, that the Governor was ready to pass the same into a Law, whenever the House should present it to him for that Purpose.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined *Conrad Weiser's* Account, and found, that, after deducting the Sum of *One Pound Nineteen Shillings*, due by the said *Weiser* to the Province on a former Account, there remained a Balance of *Fifty-nine Pounds Three Shillings* and *Seven-pence*, now to be paid him.—— To which Report the House agreed; and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Michael Teaffe*, praying some Allowance from this House for dieting the late *Half-King*, and his Family, according to an Account laid before the House in *December* last, was presented to the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

The Governor's Message of Yesternight being again read, and considered, *Ordered*, That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Smith*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *Calvin Cooper*, *John Wright* and *Joseph Armstrong* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act to continue an Act*, entituled, *An Act for directing the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties* of Chester, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks *and* Northhampton, being ingrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Ordered, That *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox* and *John Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill relating to the Choice of Inspectors is ingrossed, and that the House desire he would be pleased to appoint some of the Council to join with the said Members of this House, to compare the same: And further, desire that the Governor would be pleased to appoint a Time when the House shall wait upon him in order to have the said Bill passed into a Law.

And the said Gentlemen are likewise further directed to acquaint the Governor, that the House desire he would be pleased to let them have a Sight of those Letters and Papers, relating to the *Ohio* Road, which were laid before the House on the Thirteenth of *May* last, and since returned to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from the *Indian Jagrea*, for Provisions furnished the *Owendaet Indians*, on their Journey to this Town: Also

An Account from *Adam Terrence*, for Fifty-two Days Attendance on the said *Indians*, as their Interpreter, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

The Committee appointed to audit and settle the Public Accounts, made their Report in Writing, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait on the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to appoint a Member of the Council to join the Members of this House in comparing the ingrossed Bill, who found it to agree with the Original; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would be in the Council Chamber at Eleven o'Clock To-morrow Morning, in order to pass the same into a Law.

The Gentlemen likewise brought down sundry Papers relating to the *Ohio* Road; which the Secretary told them were those laid before the House on the Thirteenth of *May* last.

An Account from *John Potter*, Sheriff of *Cumberland* County, for his Expences and Trouble in apprehending sundry Persons suspected of holding a Correspondence with the *French*, and carrying them separately to General *Braddock*, then at Fort *Cumberland*, and by his Orders back to *Carlisle* Prison, amounting to *Twenty-two Pounds, Seventeen Shillings* and *Six-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

The Committee appointed to purchase Arms for the Use of the Inhabitants on the Frontiers, reported. that they had already purchased some, and had received the Governor's Approbation for sending them to sundry Places.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary.

SIR,

The Governor is now ready to receive the House in the Council Chamber.

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the Whole House, waited on the Governor.

The House being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act to continue an Act*, entituled, *An Act for directing the Choice of Inspectors in the Counties of* Chester, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks *and* Northampton; to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent by enacting the same into a law.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant, reported the same to the House; and it was read, and referred for Consideration to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, reported, that the same is done, and that it is deposited in the Rolls Office.

The Answer to the Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant, being again read, and considered, was agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second*-day, at Ten o'Clock, *A. M.*

The House met, and adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The Answer to the Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant, being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE sincerity of the Governor's Regret at the "unnecessary Disputes" which subsist between us, the very first Paragraph of his Message gives us some Room to Question; since it begins with a *new Charge* that those Disputes are of *our introducing*, and that we "*delight* to introduce them to turn the Attention of the People from Things of the last Importance to their future Safety." This Charge itself designed to introduce another *unnecessary* Dispute, since all that are acquainted with our Disputes know by *whom* they were introduced, and *who it is* that *delights* in Disputing.

That our Message of the Nineteenth of *August* was a "very tedious" One to the Governor we make no Doubt. It must have been so in the Matter, and might probably be so in the Manner. There was too much Truth in it, and too little Flattery. We supose too, that the Task of answering it might be as tedious as the Message itself; since, to shorten the Work, he has passed over a Number of the most important Points, and all our Reasonings upon them, without attempting an Answer. And we think he cannot justly complain of Want of Time to answer that Message, since we sat four Days after delivering it, adjourned for near four Weeks, and had been met again nine Days before we received the Answer, which, now we have it, we find to be such an one as might have been made in a few Hours. But had our Message really been "filled with the grossest Calumny and Abuse," as the Governor says it was, we cannot think, with the Governor, that it would therefore have been "beneath him as a Gentleman to make any Reply to it." If we were of that Sentiment, we should make none to the Message we are now considering. We think, that what is beneath a Gentleman, is not *the Answering* of Calumny, but *the making Use of it*. And we wish, for the Governor's Sake, that he had been of the same Opinion: For he might then probably have treated us in a Manner more suitable to his Character as a Gentleman, and had more Regard to the Preservation of that Character.

The Governor denies, that our Claim of the Privilege "of having our Bills granting Supplies passed as they are tendered without Amendment, is warranted by the Words of the Charter;" though it gives us "all the Powers and Privileges of an Assembly, according to the Rights of the Freeborn Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*." It the Free-born Subjects of *England do not* exercise this Right by their Representatives in Parliament, and it *is not* usual in *any* of the King's Plantations in *America;* then we are in the wrong to claim it, and the Governor is right in denying it. But Facts are for us; and these, in this Case, the Governor does not deny. Our Predecessors may in some few Instances have waved that Right, but they have never given it up, nor will, as we hope, those that shall succeed us. We trust they will rather be more cautious of suffering such dangerous Precedents, when, they see how fond Governors are of seizing the Advantage for diminishing our Privileges.

We agree with the Governor, that what we have said as to his Offer of Lands to the Westward, will not hinder *unprejudiced* Men from seeing it *in its true Light;* we think our Remarks have rather contributed to that End, and even assisted those that might before be *prejudiced*: But are at a loss to conceive how either the Prejudiced or Unprejudiced could be "convinced" the Offer was "made under a *proper Authority*," when neither of the Governor's Commissions, not even that which he calls "the *Foundation of Property*," gave him such authority; and he is now reduced to the Necessity of dropping them, and recurring to *private Instructions*, never mentioned before; of which none can judge till he shall think fit to produce them. But all may judge how well he has acquitted himself of the Imputation of attempting to impose on the Public, by introducing the Commission of Property as an Authority for the Offer; so we shall spare the Governor on that Head, and press it no further.

If the Governor had given himself the Trouble of looking into *Viner* under the Title we mentioned, he might there have found the Case abridged referred to; We, it seems, not being Lawyers, quoted improperly; but He, though a Lawyer, refers us to Lord *Coke*. without Page, Case or Volume; and to "*other Writers of Note and Authority in the Law*," without so much as naming their Names: So that we are utterly at a Loss where to find the *Law Part* of his Messages; but the *Politicks* and the *Calumny* we can easily trace to their Fountain Head, though he does not vouchsafe to quote it at all. The perfect

Sameness of Sentiment, and even of Expression, are sufficient to show, that they are all drawn from a late famous Libel, entituled, *A Brief State of the Province of Pennsylvania:* An Author, of whom, if we do not say, as the Governor says of *Viner*, that he has *no Authority;* yet we may say, that his Authority diminshes daily, the more we see of his Works.

The Governor is pleased to say, that "the common Security of the People requires that they should not be taxed but by the Voice of the whole Legislature;" and that "we might as well set up a Democracy at once, as claim an exclusive Right to the Disposition of Public Money." To this we beg Leave to answer, that though we are not so absurd as to "design a Democracy," of which the Governor is pleased to accuse us; yet in this Particular, all our late Attempts to raise Money "for the common Security of the People," being obstructed and defeated by the Governor's having a Voice in that Matter, would rather induce us to think, that his having such a Voice, *is not* best for their Security; and such a Conduct in a Governor, appears to us the most likely Thing in the World to make People incline to a Democracy, who would otherwise never have dreamt of it.

But the Governor is pleased to tell us, that "our Claim of a natural Exclusive Right to the Disposition of Public Money, because it is the Peoples, is *against Reason*, the *Nature of an* English *Government*, and the *Usage of this Province*." He has, however, never produced *that Reason* to us; and we still think, that as every Man has, so every Body of Men have a natural Right to the Disposition of their own Money, by themselves or their Representatives; and that the Proprietary's Claim of a Voice in the Disposition of Money, to which he will contribute no Part, is a Claim contrary to Reason. The Wisdom of the Crown has thought fit to allow different Constitutions to different Colonies, suitable to their different Circumstances, and as they have been long settled and established, we apprehend that if the Governor could have Power to unsettle them all, and make in every one such Changes as would be necessary to reduce them to a Conformity with *his Idea* of an "*English* Government," the Reformation would be productive of more Inconvenience than Advantage. The general "Usage of this Province" in the Disposition of Public Money, was ever what it now is; and as the Province has flourished with it, and no Inconvenience has attended it, we hope it will still continue. Particular Laws may, in a very few Instances, have given the Disposition of particular Sums to the Governor, or to Commissioners, for particular Services; but a few such

Instances do not make *an Usage*, and the Governor must in that Point have been greatly misinformed.

It is agreed, that in the Concessions mentioned by the Governor, the Proprietary reserved in every *Hundred Thousand* Acres *Ten* to himself; but then (to make the Governor's "plain Fact" a little plainer) he was to have it by Lot, and not by Choice; the Quantity so reserved was to lie *but in one Place;* and he was "bound to plant or man it within Three Years after it was set out and surveyed;' or else (by the next Concession) it was "lawful for New-comers to settle thereupon, and he to go higher up for his Share." This might induce him not to take up more than he could conveniently settle; but can give his Successors no Right to pick here and there the best vacant Pieces among the Settlements, excluding other Rights; nor to keep the Land-Office shut, as was done after the second mentioned Purchase, till they had garbled the best Tracts for themselves and Dependents, and left little besides Rocks and barren Mountains for the rest of the People. The third and last Purchase being made but the last Year, and the Land mostly exposed to, or, as the Governor has often informed us, in the Hands of the Enemy, we are surprized to hear that "great Numbers of People are seated on it to their entire Satisfaction;" and more so, that the Proprietaries Manors and appropriated Tracts are *mostly settled* by Persons that pay their Share of all Taxes. If this be so, we must own ourselves as much unacquainted with the State of his *Lands*, as we are with the State and Management of the *Land-Office*, which of late, indeed, is pretty much a Mystery. That the Proprietaries are entitled to the Character of the *best Landlords*, we can by no Means presume to say with the Governor; since his Majesty's Lands are granted without Purchase Money, on Half the Quitrent, and the Quitrents are applied to the Support of Government and Defence of the Country: We cannot therefore but be of Opinion, that the King is a much better Landlord.

If the Governor would please to consider, that it does not fall to the Share of perhaps one Man in Five Hundred to be an Assessor during his whole Life, and that the Chance of being favoured or not by a succeeding Assessor, as he himself shall behave in that Office, is proportionably small; and that the very little which can possible be saved in *his* Part of the Tax, by unjustly enhancing that of the Proprietaries, is a Matter next to Nothing; the Governor certainly cannot have so ill an Opinion of Mankind, as to believe these Temptations can be sufficient to induce a commonly honest

Man to forswear himself; and Assessors are seldom Men of the meanest Characters for Integrity. But surely, a Security that all the Peers in *Britain* think sufficient with regard to the Equity of Taxation on their Estates, might be confided in by our Proprietaries: unless the People here are much more depraved than we can possibly conceive them to be.

Our Argument, that, *if all the Estates in* Britain *and her Colonies now bear or must bear a Tax to free the Proprietary Estate from Encroachments, that Estate itself ought not to be exempted*, the Governor calls, "*an invidious and ungrateful Insinuation!*" and asks, "Is there nothing but this at Stake? Is it for a Tract of unsettled Country, belonging to the Proprietaries of this Province, that the Eyes of all *Europe* are turned upon this Continent, and such mighty Preparations making both by Sea and Land? Or, Gentlemen, can you think that if the Enemy are suffered to keep up Fortifications in any private Estate whatsoever within the Limits of this Province, you could preserve your Estates, or the *English* Nation its Dominions? What End then can such Insinuations serve, but to cool the Ardor of his Majesty's good Subjects in recovering the Country unjustly taken from them,—as if they were contending for a Thing of no Consequence, which is but too much the Opinion of many amongst us, raised and confirmed no Doubt by your strange Conduct." Had we asserted that the Proprietary Estate *only* was in Danger, and argued thence. that Estate *alone* ought therefore to pay for its Recovery or Security, all this Strain of the Governor's Eloquence might then have been very just and proper: But, may it please the Governor, we *did think* there was something else at Stake; we thought other Estates in Danger, and therefore offered a very large Sum, as our Share of Expence, in the Bill for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use. But we thought the Proprietary Estate at least as much in Danger as any other Estate, and therefore imagined it ought to pay its Proportion towards the Expence of its own Security. The Governor, it seems, thinks otherwise, and because other Estates are *likewise* in Danger, the Proprietary Estate ought to be *exempted;* and unless we will agree to recover and defend that *gratis*, we shall not be permitted to raise Money for the Defence of our own Estates, our Neighbours, or our Sovereign's Dominions. This is our present Situation, and we cannot help it: for the Proprietary Instructions are, it seems, as unalterable as the Laws of the *Medes* and *Persians.* But let it be known to them, and to all, it *is not* our Insinuation, invidious as it may seem to the Governor, and ungrateful to his Ears, that cools the Ardor of his Majesty's good Subjects; but if any Thing cools that Ardor it must be the *Fact insinuated* the Proprietaries claiming that invidious and odius Distinction, of being exempted from the common Burdens of their Fellow-Subjects. If there be any who think the Nation is contending for a Thing of no Consequence, it must be those who refuse to contribute their Share, and not we who offer largely—and that Opinion in others, if such an Opinion there be, must be raised and confirmed by the Governor, and Proprietaries *strange Conduct*, and not by ours.

The Governor says, we "lay to his Charge a *pretended* Estimate (of the Expence of cutting the Roads) of which he is totally ignorant, having *never seen* nor *heard of one*." Is it possible that the Governor can have forgotten it? He told us in his Message of the Eighteenth of *March*, that he had "appointed Commissioners to reconnoitre the Country, mark out where such Roads might most conveniently be made, and make Report to him of their Proceedings, with an *Estimate of the Expences* that would attend the Opening and Clearing them." On the Application of the Governor, in that Message, the House sent up a Bill, giving *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, wherein, among other Things, the *Clearing of Roads* for the King's Service was provided for. But, may it please the Governor, did the Commissioners never comply with their Instructions, and make that Estimate? Or, if they made it, did the Governor never lay it before the House? 'Tis true we have not that Estimate now in our Possession; it was returned again to the Governor; but we all remember the Sum, and that it was *Eight Hundred Pounds*. If it was indeed, as the Governor says it might possibly be, "only some Mens private Opinion," yet it was *an Estimate*, and sent to us by the Governor; whether made by the Commissioners, of by others, we have not said (though we think it was by the Commissioners) nor is it material: However, we have remaining in the House a subsequent Letter from one of the Commissioners, to the Secretary, dated *May* the Third, which says "We sent you a Draught of the Road both to the Waters of the *Yohiogani* and to the Camp, with all the principal Places marked that occured to us, with the Amount of the Charges of laying out both, *and an Estimate of the Expence* of opening and bridging the Road to the *Yohiogani* from the *Tuscarora* Mountain: That to the Camp will not cost so much in Proportion to its Length, because it is less hilly; but we expect Amendments upon it, so as to come into the other near the Top of *Sideling Hill*, and avoid two Crossings of *Juniata*, and also to cut off several Miles between the *Devil's Hole* and the Camp. *Both Roads will leave little of* Fifteen Hundred Pounds; for it is impossible to tell what Expence unexpected Occurances will arise to." By this it appears, that an *Estimate* was made by the Commissioners, and that the Governor either "saw or heard of it" seems probable, since he sent down this very Letter to the House; at least he must have heard of the *second Estimate*, contained in this Letter, that "*both Roads* would leave little of *Fifteen Hundred Pounds*." The House however voted still to bear the Expence of cutting both Roads, though the first Sum was nearly doubled, and the Refusal of their Bill by the Governor would make it more difficult to be complied with. We have also in our Hands another Letter from the same Commissioner, dated fifteen Days after the former, wherein, after more Experience in the Work, he makes a *third Estimate*, judgeing that the "Expence of opening both Roads will be little under *Two Thousand Pounds*." This Estimate the Governor must surely have "seen or heard of," since the Letter is to himself, and by him laid before us. After all these Estimates gradually rising from *Eight Hundred to Two Thousand Pounds*, the Design of opening one of the Roads was dropt, the intended Breadth of the other was reduced one Third, its intended Length shortened, and even that shorter Extent never compleated; and yet, though it was supposed we had paid near *One Thousand Pounds* in Money and Provisions, we were given to understand that *Five Thousand Pounds* more was wanted. Had we not Reason to be surprised at this, and to suspect some Extravance in the Management?

But the Governor is pleased to tell us, not only that we charged him with an Estimate that he never saw, but likewise that we "charged him with a Demand that he never made." We happen, however, to have the Original Letter from his Commissioners, which he laid before the House on the Ninth of *August*, wherein are these Words: "*Shippensburg, August* 4, 1755. Honoured Sir, We have appointed a Meeting of the Commissioners for the Roads leading to the *Ohio*, at this Town To-day, in order to fall upon Measures to provide Money for the Payment of the Labourers, *&c.* employed in the Service of the Roads; and we have thought of this Expedient (with Submission to your Honour's better Judgment) that some Person or Persons should be appointed by your Honour to bring up Money, and to be satisfied with our Settlement of the Accounts. We cannot at present inform your Honour of the just Sum of Money that will be wanted for the above

Purpose; but we think it will amount to *Five Thousand Pounds.* As the People are much in Want of Money, *we should be glad how soon the Money can be sent*, &c." This Letter was signed by the six Commissioners, and sent down to the House by the Governor; to what End, unless that we might furnish him with the Sum required? Yet now he knows nothing of this Demand, and is pleased to say, "it could not have been then made by any one, because the Accounts were not come in," as if a Demand in Part was a Thing impossible, before a Settlement. The Accounts however are at length come in, and under Examination, and it will now soon be seen, what Cause we shall have to commend the Governor's or the Commissioners Frugality: And we hope we shall not be backward to do it Justice.

The Governor's Judgment of our Motives to engage in this Work of opening the Roads, seems to us a very uncharitable one, but we hope to find more equitable Judgement elsewhere. We are obliged to him, however for owning that we did engage in it at all. For as he is pleased to lay it down as a Maxim that we are very wicked People; he has shewn in other Instances, when we have done any Good, that he thinks it no more Injustice to us to *deny the Facts*, than now to deny the Goodness of our Motives.

He would however think himself ill used, if any Part of his Zeal in that Affair was ascribed to the Menances directed to him; or to a View of accommodating by the new Road the Lands of the Proprietaries new Purchase, and by that Means encreasing the Value of their Estate at our Expence.

The Governor is next pleased to tell us, "that we have *taken great Pains to infuse* into the Minds of the People, particularly the *Germans,s* that the *Government* have Designs to abridge them of their Privileges and to reduce them to a State of Slavery. That this may, and will, alienate their Affections from his Majesty's Government, and destroy that Confidence in the Crown and its Delegates which at this Time, is particularly necessary, and render all the Foreigners among us very indifferent as to the Success of the *French* Attempts upon this Continent, as they cannot be in worse Circumstances under them, than we have taught them to expect from the King's Government." And a little lower he tells us, "that we scruple not to stir up his Majesty's Subjects against his Government, forgetting all Duty to our Sovereign and all Decency to those in Authority under him." These are very heavy charges indeed! But can the Governor possibly expect that any body will believe them? Can he even believe them himself? We can indeed truly say it *with Confidence*, and the Governor may, if he pleases, call it "*our usual Confidence*," that there is not a more dutiful, loyal and affectionate People to any Prince on Earth than are the People, not only of this Colony, but of all the other *British* Colonies in *America*, to the best of Kings, his present Majesty; and we cannot therefore forbear to say, that this Charge is a virulent Calumny, destitute of all Truth and Probability. But what must we do to please this kind Governor, who takes so much Pains to render us obnoxious to our Sovereign, and odious to our Fellow-Subjects? Must we bear silently all these Abuses? 'Tis too hard, But if we deny his Accusations, and prove them false, this he calls "forgetting all Decency to our Governor;" and if we complain of his Treatment, that is "stirring up his Majesty's Subjects against his Government." No, may it please the Governor, we make a wide Distinction between the King's Government, and the Governor's Conduct; and we have Reason. Every Deputy Governor is not the Prince, and some are very indifferent Representatives of him. Every Dislike of a *Governor's Behaviour* is not Dislike of *Government;* nor every Censure of a *Governor*, Disaffection to the *King*. And indeed the more a People love their Prince and admire his Virtues, the less they must esteem a Governor who acts unlike him.

That there is a Design in the Proprietaries and Governor, to abridge the People here of their Privileges, is no Secret. The Proprietaries have avowed it in their Letter to the House, dated *London*, *March* 2, 1741. The Doctrine that it is necessary, is publicly taught in their *Brief State;* and the Governor himself has told us, that we have more than is suitable for a dependent Colony. It is these Proceedings that give Jealousy to the People, but do not however alienate their Affections from *his Majesty's* Government, though they may from *the Proprietaries.* Their "Confidence in the Crown" is as great as ever; but when the Delegates of Power are continually abusing and calumniating the People, it is no wonder if they lose all "Confidence" in such Delegates.

The Governor can think himself at Liberty to tell us, That "we stir up his Majesty's Subjects against his Majesty's Government, forgetting all Duty to our Sovereign;" and yet if we only tell him, that the Difficulties he meets with, are not owing to those Causes, which indeed have no Existence, but to his own Want of Skill and Abilities for his Station, he takes it extremely amiss, and says, "we forget all Decency to those in Authority." We are apt to think there is likewise some Decency due to the Assembly, as a Part of the Government, and though we have not, like the Governor, had a Courtly Education, but are plain Men, and must be very imperfect in our Politeness, yet we think we have no Chance of improving by his Example. Skill and Abilities to govern, we apprehend fall to the Share of few; they may possibly be acquired by Study and Practice, but are not infused into a Man with his Commission; he may without them be a wise and able Man in other Affairs, and a very good and honest Man in general. But those "who stir up his Majesty's Subjects against his Government, and forget all Duty to their Sovereign," as the Governor says we do, must be *Traitors* and *Rebels*, a Character that includes the highest Folly with the greatest Wickedness. The World will judge which of these Charges is most *decent*, as well as most true, and we shall leave it to their Judgment.

The Governor is pleased to repeat the Charge of our "*taking upon us great and mighty Powers*," and to say, *Since you call upon me to particularize them, I shall gratify you.* We apprehend it is rather to gratify himself; for lest these Particulars should seem to be brought in improperly, the Governor says, *we call upon him for them.* We cannot find any such Call in our Message; but if there were, it was a very unnecessary One; for the Governor has so accustomed us to find some of these Charges in almost every Message, and so delights in renewing them, after repeated Refutations, that we might have expected them as Matters of Course. *You have created a Paper Currency of your own*, &c. This stale Charge was fully refuted in our Message of the Seventeenth of *May* last, and now repeated without taking the least Notice of that Refutation. *You pay your own Wages out of the Provincial Money, when the Law requires and provides for their being paid in another Manner.* This charge is premature, as we have not yet paid ourselves any Wages out of any Money. We gave the Governor, indeed, *Five Hundred Pounds* out of this Provincial Money, though the Law requires and provides for his being supported by Licenses of Public Houses, Fees, *&c.* but that he might be sure of being right, he took both. The plain State of the Matter is this; By the County Levy Act, the Commissioners and Assessors are directed "to adjust and settle the Sum and Sums of Money which ought of NECESSITY to be raised yearly, to pay for Representatives Service in General Assembly, and to defray the Charges of Building and Repairing of Court-houses, Prisons, Work-houses, Bridges and Causeways, and for destroying of Wolves, *&c.* and to lay a Tax for these Purposes."

But other Acts of Assembly having directed that the Provincial Money, arising from the Loan-Office and Excise, "shall be disposed of as the Assembly of this Province shall direct and appoint," former Assemblies have, for many Years past, paid Provincial Charges, and the Public Salaries out of that Provincial Money, and among others, their own small Wages. Hence it happened, that the Wages being otherways paid, the Commissioners and Assessors found no *Necessity* of raising a Tax for that Purpose, and therefore have not done it, being no more obliged to do it without such *Necessity*, than to tax for building Court-houses when they have them already built, or to repair them when they need no Repairs; or to pay for Wolves Heads when none are killed. As to the other Charge of not keeping the Borroweres in the Loan-Office strictly up to their yearly Payments as the Law required, we beg Leave to say, that we cannot think this House is strictly accountable for all the Faults of their, any more than the Governor for the Faults of his, Predecessors; nor that every Forbearing to execute a Law is properly called dispensing with Law. If it were, the Executive Power in most Governments is greatly chargeable with the same offence. For our Parts, whom the Governor is pleased to *load with this Charge*, we did in *May* last expressly order the Trustees to use the utmost of their Care and Diligence to collect the outstanding Quotas, and, to quicken them, drew Orders on them nearly for the Amount; but as a severe Execution of that Law would in some Cases have been extremely injurious, as the Evil had been almost imperceptibly growing, and gradually stole upon the Assemblies in a long Course of Years; and as a sudden Sale of all delinquent Estates to recover their respective Quotas, would have been the Ruin of many; and no Depreciation of the Money or other considerable Inconveneince has followed the Forbearance, we conceive that former Trustees and Assemblies, who gained nothing to themselves by this Indulgence of the People, though not free from Blame, deserve a less severe Censure than the Governor is disposed to bestow upon them. The Charge perhaps amounts to little more than this, that they did not exact from the People the Payments that by Law they ought to have exacted; which the Governor calls *dispensing with a Law:* They are not, however, chargeable with *Exacting Money from the People* which *by Law* they had *no Right to Exact*, as we apprehend the Governor does, in the Fees for

Marriage Licenses, by which may *Thousand Pounds* have been drawn from the Inhabitants of this Province. If this be not *dispensing with Law*, 'tis *making law*, and we presume the Governor *alone* has no more Right to do the one, than the Assembly *alone* the other. That last of this String of Charges, "that we have taken upon us to administer the Affirmation to our Clerk, and several of our Members not *Quakers*" is a *total Mistake* in Point of Fact. As an Assembly we disclaim any Right of administring either an Affirmation or an Oath; and have never administred an Oath or Affirmation to our Clerk, or any Member; but whenever an Oath or Affirmation is administred in the House, it is done by a Justice of the Peace. And our Members are always qualified according to Law.

The Governor is pleased to say, "we have *often mentioned* what we have done to promote the Success of his Majesty's Arms under General *Braddock*." We own that we have often mentioned this, but we have been forced to it by the Governor's asserting as often in his Messages, contrary to known Fact, that we *had done nothing, and would do nothing* of that kind. But it seems *we take to ourselves the Services of particular Men, in which*, the Governor says, *we had no Hand;* and adds, "that had we *in Time* opened the proper Roads, raised Men, and provided Carriages, and necessary Provisions for Troops, we might now have been in peaceable Possession of Fort *Duquesne*." We beg Leave to ask the Governor, Has the Body no Share in what is done by its Members? Has the House no Hand in what is done by its Committees? Has it no Hand in what is done by Virtue of its own Resolves and Orders? Did we not, many Weeks before the Troops arrived, vote *Five Thousand Pounds* for purchasing fresh Victuals, and other Necessaries for their Use? Did we not even borrow Money on our own Credit to purchase those Provisions when the Governor had rejected our Bill? Will the Governor deny this, when he himself once charged it upon us as a Crime? Were not the Provisions actually purchased by our Committee, the full Quantity required by the Commissary, and carried by Land to Virginia at our Expence, even before they were wanted? Did the Army ever want Provisions, till they had abandoned or destroyed them? Are there not even now some Scores of Tons of it lying at Fort *Cumberland* and *Conegochieg?* Did the Governor ever mention the Opening of Roads to us before the Eighteenth of *March*, though the Requisition was made to him by the Quarter Master General in *January?* Did we not in a few

Days after send him up a Bill to provide for the Expence, which he refused? Did not the Governor proceed nevertheless to appoint Commissioners, and engage Labours for opening the Road, whom we afterwards agrèed to pay out of the Money we happened to have in our Power? Did the Work ever stop a Moment through any Default of ours? Was the Road ever intended for the March of the Troops to the *Ohio?* Was it not merely to open a Communciation with this Province, for the more convenient supplying them with Provisions when they should be arrived there? Did they wait in the least for this Road? Had they not as many Men as they wanted, and many from this Province? Where they not more numberous than the Enemy they went to oppose even after the General had left near Half his Army fifty Miles behind him? Were not all the Carriages they demanded, being One Hundred and Fifty, engaged, equipt, and sent forward in a few Days after the Demand, and all at *Wils's* Creek many Days before the Army was ready to march? With what Face then, of Probability, can the Governor undertake to say, "That had we *in Time* opened the proper Roads, raised Men, and provided Carriages, and necessary Provisions for the Troops, we might now have been in peaceable Possession of Fort *Duquesne?*"

The Governor is pleased to doubt our having such Letters as we mentioned; we are therefore, in our own Vindication, under a Necessity of quoting to him some Parts of them; and will shew him the Originals whenever he shall please to require it. The General's Secretary, in his Letter, of the Tenth of *May*, to one of our Members (who, in Pursuance of a Resolve of the House, for the Service of the Army, waited on the General at *Frederic*, and there occasionally undertook the furnishing of Waggons, which he performed with the Assistance of some other Members of the Committee, and for that, and other Services to the Troops, received the Thanks of the House at his Return) says, "You have done us *great Service* in the Execution of the Business you have kindly undertaken; and indeed without it, *I don't see how the Service could have been carried on*, as the Expectations from *Maryland* have come to nothing." And again, in his Letter of *May* the Fourteenth, "The General orders me to acquaint you, that he is greatly obliged to you, for the great Care and Readiness with which you have executed the Business you undertook for him. At your Request he will with Pleasure discharge the Servants that may have insisted in the Forces under his Command, or any others for whom you may desire a Discharge; and desires that you would for that Purpose send him their Names." And again, in his Letter of *May* the Twentieth, "I have only Time to thank you once more, in the Name of the General, and every body concerned, for the Service you have done; which has been conducted throughout with the greatest Prudence and most generous Spirit for the Public Service." The General's own Letter, dated the Twenty-ninth of *May*, mentions and acknowledges the Provisions *"given by the* Pennsylvania *Assembly* [though the Governor will allow us to have had "no Hand" in it] and says, "Your Regard for his Majesty's Service, and Assistance to the present Expedition, deserve my sincerest Thanks, *&c.*" Colonel *Dunbar* writes, in his Letter of *May* the Thirteenth, concerning the present of Refreshments and Carriage-Horses sent up for the Subalterns, "I am desired by all the Gentlemen, whom the *Committee* have been so good as to think of in so genteel a Manner, to return them their *hearty Thanks*." And again, on the Twenty-first of *May*, "Your kind Present is now all arrived, and shall be equally divided To-morrow between Sir *Peter Halket's* Subalterns and mine, which I apprehend will be agreeable to the *Committee's* Intent. This I have made known to the Officers of both Regiments, who unanimously desire me to return their generous Benefactors their most *hearty Thanks*, to which be pleased to add mine, *&c.*" and Sir *Peter Halket*, in his of the Twenty-third of May, says, "The Officers of my Regiment are most sensible of the Favours conferred on the Subalterns *by your Assembly*, who have made them so well-timed and so handsome a Present. At their Request and Desire I return *their Thanks*, and to the Acknowledgments of the Officers beg Leave to add mine, which you, I hope, will do me the Favour for the Whole to offer *to the Assembly*, and to assure them that we shall on every Occasion do them the Justice due for so seasonable and well-judged an Act of Generosity." There are more of the same Kind, but these may suffice to shew, that we had "some Hand in what was done," and that we did not, as the Governor supposes, deviate from the Truth, when, in our just and necessary Vindication against his groundless, cruel and repeated Charge, "that we had *refused* the proper, necessary and timely Assistance to an Army sent to protect the Colonies," we alledged "that we had supplied that Army plentifully with all they asked of us, and more than all, and had Letters from the late General, and other principal Officers, acknowledging our Care, and thanking us cordially for our Services." If the General ever wrote differently of us to the King's Ministers, it must have been while he was under the first Impressions given him by the Governor to our Disadvantage, and before he knew us; and we think with the Governor, that if he had lived, he was too honest a Man not to have retracted those mistaken Accounts of us, and done us ample Justice.

The Governor concludes with telling us, that "if our Minutes be examined for Fifteen Years past, in them will be found more frivolous Controversies, unparalleled Abuses of Governors, and more Undutifulness to the Crown, than in all the rest of his Majestys Colonies, put together," The Minutes are printed, and in many hands, who may judge on examining them whether any Abuses of Governors and Undutifulness to the Crown are to be found in them. *Controversies*, indeed, there are too many; but as our Assemblies are yearly changing, while our Proprietaries, during that Term, have remained the same, and have probably given their Governors the same Instructions, we must leave others to guess from what Root this is most likely that those Controversies should continually spring. As to frivolous Controversies, we never had so many of them as since our present Governor's Administration, and all raised by himself; and we may venture to say, that during that one Year, scarce yet expired there have been more "Unparalleled Abuses," of this People, and their Representatives in Assembly, than in all the Years put together since the Settlement of the Province.

We are now to take our Leave of the Governor; and indeed, since he hopes no Good from us, nor we from him 'tis Time we should be parted. If our Constituents disapprove our Conduct, a few Days will give them an Opportunity of changing us by a new Election; and could the Governor be as soon and as easily changed, *Pennsylvania* would, we apprehend, deserve much less the Character he gives it, of *an unfortunate Country*."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Gibbons* and *John Wright* wait upon the Governor with the same.

Ordered, That the Governor's Meſsage of the Twenty-fourth Instant, and the Message of the House in Answer thereto, be printed in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return and report, that they had been at the Governor's House, and that a Servant informed them the Governor was out of Town, and would not be at Home this Evening.

Ordered, That the same Members go to the Secretary's, and enquire when the Governor is expected in Town; and if the Secretary should say that he did not expect the Governor in Town To-morrow, leave the Message of the House with the Secretary, and desire he would deliver it to the Governor when he returns.

The Governor return, and report, that they had been at the Secretary's, according to Order; and that the Secretary informed them, that the Governor was gone to *Rocky-Hill*, in the Province of *New-Jersey*, and that he did not expect him Home till *Friday* next; but that he would receive the Message of the House, and deliver it to the Governor as soon as he returned; whereupon the Gentlemen left the said Message with the Secretary.

The Messages from the Governor, concerning the Application of the Eastern Governments for Provisions, being again read, and considered,

Resolved, N. C. D. That when Application is made to this House by the Governor, for something to be done at the Request of another Government, the Letters and Papers that are to be the Foundation of our Proceedings on such Application, ought to be, as they have been by all preceding Governors, laid before the house for their Consideration.

Resolved, N. C. D. That a Sight afforded to the Speaker, or a few of the Members, of Papers remaining in the Governor's Hands, cannot be so satisfactory to the rest of the House, nor even to the Speaker, and such Members, as if those Papers were laid before the House, where they might receive several distinct Readings, and be subject to repeated Inspection and Discussion till they were thoroughly understood; and all Danger of Mistakes and Misconceptions through Defect of Attention or of Memory, in one or a few Persons, effectually prevented.

Resolved, N. C. D. That great Inaccuracies and Want of Exactness have been frequently observed by the House in the Governor's Manner of stating Matters, laid before them in his Messages; and therefore they cannot think such Messages, without the Papers therein referred to, are a sufficient Foundation for the House to proceed upon, in an Affair of Moment, or that it would be prudent or safe so to do, either for themselves or their Constituents.

Resolved, N. C. D. That though the Governor may possibly have obtained Orders not to lay the Secretary of State's Letters in some Cases before the House, they humbly conceive and hope that Letters from the neighboring Governments, in such Cases as the present, cannot be included in those Orders.

Resolved, N. C. D. That when an immediate Assistance to neighboring Colonies is required of us; to interrupt or prevent our Deliberations, by refusing us a Sight of the Request, is a Proceeding extremely improper and unseasonable.

But a Member of his House producing a Letter to himself from the Honourable *Thomas Hutchinson*, Esq; a Person of great Distinction and Weight in the Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and a Member of the Council of that Province, mentioning the Application to this Government for Provisions, and the Necessity of an immediate Supply; And it appearing by the Resolution of the Council of War, held at the Carrying Place, on the Twenty-fourth past (an Abstract of which is communicated to the Speaker, by the Honourable *Thomas Pownal*, Esq; Lieutenant Governor of the *Jerseys*) that the Army will be in Want of Blankets and other Cloathing, suitable to the approaching Season; and this House being willing to afford what Assistance may be in their Power, under their present unhappy Circumstances of an exhausted Treasury, and a total Refusal by the Governor of their Bills for raising Money;

Resolved, That a voluntary Subscription of any Sum or Sums, not exceeding *Ten Thousand Pounds*, which shall be paid by any Persons into the Hands of *Isaac Norris*, *Evan Morgan*, *Joseph Fox*, *John Mifflin*, *Reese Meredith* and *Samuel Smith*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Gentlemen, within two Weeks after this Date, towards the Furnishing of Provisions, and Blankets or other warm Cloathing, to the Troops now at or near *Crown-Point*, on the Frontiers of *New-York*, will be of Service to the Crown, and acceptable to the Public, and the Subscribers ought to be thankfully reimbursed (with Interest) by future Assemblies, to whom it is accordingly by this House earnestly recommended.

The Speaker read to the House a Paper containing some Authorities relating to the Rights of the Commons of *Great-Britain* over Money Bills, and in support of the Bill passed by this House for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, so far as the said Bill relates to the Taxing the Proprietaries Estate within this Province. And the Speaker being requested by the House to let the same be entered upon the Minutes, consented thereto; and it accordingly follows in these Words, *viz.*

THE Governor, in his Message of the Thirteenth of *August* last, asserts, "That as our Proprietaries (being hereditary

Governors of this Province) have no Vote in chusing Representatives in the Assembly, therefore it is not consistent with the *British* Constitution that their Estates here should be liable to pay Taxes." And in Answer to the Privilege we claim, of having our Bills granting Supplies passed as they are tendered, without Alterations, the Governor in his Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant says, that this Claim is not warranted by Charter; to which the House very justly replied on the Twenty-ninth, "that the Charter gives us all the Powers and Privileges of an Assembly, according to the Rights of the Free-born Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*. If the Free-born Subjects of *England* do not exercise this Right, and it is not usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*, then we are in the Wrong to claim it, and the Governor is in the Right in denying it."

The Governor in the Beginning of his Administration has solemnly promised, "that he would upon all Occasions be studious to protect the People committed to his Charge in all their Civil and Religious Privileges." So far then, as these Privileges belong to the People and their Representatives, from known Facts and unexceptionable Authorities, so far the Governor must have failed of his Promise in the Protection we have a Right to from the Duty of his Station, and our Charters, and the Laws of this Province.

The Practice of the other Plantations in *America*, and particularly very late Instances of his Majesty's Colony of *New-York*, on Money Bills, are against the Governor; but I shall chuse to confine myself to the Rights of the House of Commons, to which we are entituled by our Provincial Charter, confirmed by a Law passed in the Fourth Year of the late Queen ANNE, for ascertaining the Number of Members of Assembly, *&c.* which enacts, in the Words of the Charter, "That the Representatives chosen and met according to the Directions of that Act, shall have Power to chuse a Speaker, and other their Officers; and shall be Judges of the Qualifications and Elections of their own Members, sit upon their own Adjournments, appoint Committees, prepare Bills in order to pass into Laws, impeach Criminals, and redress Grievances; and shall have all other Powers and Privileges of Assembly according to the Rights of the Free-born Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in any of the Queen's Plantations in *America*."

The House of Commons then do claim, by the Law and Usage of Parliament, the Right of determining their own Elections, and consequently, and necessarily, the Right of the

Electors to vote; and in Virtue of this Right it appears by the Journal of the House of Commons, Vol. XIII. Page 326, that no Peer of the Realm hath any Right to give his Vote in the Election of any Member to serve in Parliament. The same was again unanimously resolved in the Beginning of the sixth and last Parliament of King WILLIAM III, with an additional Resolve, "That for any Lord of Parliament, or any Lord Lieutenant of any County, to concern themselves in the Elections of Members to serve for the Commons in Parliament, the same is a high Infringement of the Liberties and Privileges of the Commons of *England*." The same unanimous Resolves appear in the first Parliament of Queen ANNE, and in the Beginning of every Parliament to the Ninth of King GEORGE, where our Journals end. And it is a standing Order of the House of Commons. "That no Peer hath a Vote in the Election of a Commoner;" Nevertheless the Commons assert, "that the Grant of all Aids to the King is by the Commons, and that the Terms, Conditions, Limitations and Qualifications of such Grants have been made by the Commons only," And upon a particular Order to a Committee 30 Car. 11. that they should prepare and draw up a State of the Right of the Commons in granting of Money, and how those Rights might be asserted: The House of Commons, upon their Report, resolve, "that all Aids and Supplies, and Aids to his Majesty in Parliament, are the sole Gift of the Commons; and all Bills for the Granting any such Aids and Supplies, ought to begin with the Commons; and that it is the undoubted and sole Right of the Commons, to direct, limit and appoint in such Bills, the Ends, Purposes, Considerations, Conditions, Limitations and Qualifications of such Grants, which ought not to be changed or altered by the House of Lords." The House of Commons have been always extremely careful of this valuable Right, as upon the Bill for an additional Duty on Coffee, *&c.* 1st of WILLIAM and MARY; and the Bill for the Sale of the forfeited Estates in *Ireland*, and indeed upon all Occasions upon Money Bills.

Upon the Bill for appointing Commissioners to examine and state the Public Accounts, "the House of Commons were fully sensible, and thought the Bill so useful at that Time, as could not be sufficiently expressed; yet nothing could be of greater Importance to the Public than the Maintaining the just and distinct Rights and Privileges which each Estate of the Kingdom enjoyed according to their Constitution; that the Lords had many high Privileges to recommend their Lordships to the Favour of their Prince, and to support their

Figure in the Government, but the Commons had little besides that One of giving Money and granting Aids, which was their undoubted and inherent Right, and therefore every Thing that intrenched upon *that* the Commons might be allowed to be extremely jealous of."

As it would be dangerous to proceed in the Subject now before us without Authorities, I shall add the Continuation of *Rapin's History of* England by *Tindal*, Vol. III, Page 231, and the Record relating to the same Controversy between the House of Lords and Commons, as it lies upon the Journals of the Commons, in the Fourth Session of King WILLIAM'S second Parliament.

Tindal say, That the Lords added a Clause to the Money Bill sent up by the Commons, by which they taxed themselves. That Clause was disagreed to by the Commons, *Nemine Contradicente*, as an Encroachment on their Rights in the Article of giving Money, and sent to the Lords to desire a Conference thereupon; to whom they represented, "That the Commons had disagreed to the Clause added by their Lordships to the Money Bill, as being a notorious Encroachment upon the Rights of the House of Commons to order and settle all Matters relating to the Giving of Money, which their Ancestors had been so jealous of; that they thought it a Diminution of this their fundamental Privilege to give their Lordships any Reason for supporting it;" and their Lordships, after a long Debate, resolved to recede from the said Clause by so great a Majority, that the House did not divide upon it—— and so dropped the Clause.

On the Journals of the House of Commons it appears, "That the Lords had agreed to the Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting to their Majesties an Aid of* Four Shillings *in the Pound*, &c.——with an Amendment, Provided, nevertheless, that all and every the Peers that are to be rated by Virtue of this Act, for their Offices or personal Estate, shall be rated by *Thomas*, Earl of *Pembroke*, Lord Privy Seal, *George*, Marquis of *Halifax*, *William*, Earl of *Devon*, Lord Steward of the Household, *Charles*, Earl of *Shrewsbury*, &c. &c. or any five of them, and not otherwise; and shall not be subjected to the Imprisonment of his or their Persons, any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided also, and it is hereby declared, that the several Rates and Taxes to which the Lords and Peers of this Realm shall be liable, by Virtue of this Act, shall be received by a Collector to be nominated by the Peers; which the said Collector shall cause the same to be paid into his Majesty's Receipt of Exchequer, on or before the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, 1693." And the Question being put, that the House do agree with the Lords in the said Amendment? It passed in the Negative.—— And by Order of the House, Sir *Thomas Clarges* reported the Reason to be offered at a Conference with the Lords, "That the Right of granting Supplies to the Crown is in the Commons alone as an essential Part of their Constitution, and the Limitation of all such Grants, as to the Matter, Manner, Measure and Time, is only in them, which is so well known to be fundamentally settled in them, that to give Reasons for it, has been esteemed by our Ancestors to be a weakening of that Right, and the Clause sent down by their Lordships was a manifest Violation thereof;" And an Amendment being proposed to leave out "*Violation*," and insert "*Invasion*" instead thereof, the same was, upon the Question put thereupon, agreed unto by the House.

And after several Conferences, Mr. Attorney-General reported, "That their Lordships did not insist upon their Provisoes."

From these Records and Authorities, as well as known Facts, I apprehend it clearly appears, that the Lords do not vote in the Election of a Commoner to serve in Parliament, nor intermeddle therein: And that the House of Commons have a Right in Money Bills, that they are to be assented to or rejected by the Lords without Alterations or Amendments. I will now add such other Acts and Authorities as may further shew, that the King's Fee Farm Rents, the Palaces of *St. James's Whitehall, Somerset-house* &c. and the Regalities of *Wales* and *Chester*, and even the Civil List Revenue, are, and have been, occasionally subjected to be charged by Acts of Parliament for the Public Uses.

It is well known, that before the Revolution the whole standing Income of the State was in the Power and Disposal of the Crown, and was called the Revenue of the Crown; there was then no Distinction of what was to be alloted to the King's Use, and what for the Service of the Public, by which Means the King might reserve what Part he thought fit for his own Designs, and employ no more than he pleased for the Purposes of the Nation: Accordingly it was found after the Restoration, the Public Revenue had been constantly embezzled, and immense Sums very often sunk, without being applied to the Uses for which they were granted; it was therefore wisely concerted, after the Revolution, for the Security of the Nation from perpetual Misapplications of the Public Money, to allot a separate Income for the Maintenance of the King's

Houshold, and the Support of his Dignity, which is now called the Civil List, and to put the rest of the Public Revenues entirely under the Command of the Parliament.

It was not till the Ninth and Tenth of WILLIAM III. that the Civil List was settled upon the King for life, though he had earnestly desired it, and had subjected that Revenue to be charged to the Uses of the War. And on the Opening of the third Sessions of the third Parliament, when they did settle it upon him during his Majesty's Life, the King tells them, "That the Revenues of the Crown had been so anticipated by his Consent for public Uses, that he was wholly destitute of Means to support the Civil List;" Nevertheless, by an Act of the Twelfth and Thirteenth WILLIAM III. *Three Thousand Seven Hundred Pounds* a Week (as the Necessity of the Public Affairs required it) was taken out of that Revenue "to be applied and disposed of to and for the Public Uses during his Majesty's Life." By an Act granting an Aid to her Majesty by a Land-Tax, passed in the first Year of the Reign of Queen ANNE, for carrying on the War against *France*, the Receivers of the chief Rents of her Majesty, and of the Queen Dowager, and the Receivers of any Persons claiming under the Crown, were enjoined under severe Penalties to deduct their Taxes of *Four Shillings* in the *Pound* out of the said Rents, and in like Manner the Fee Farm Rents of the Crown, the Palaces of *St. James's*, *Whitehall*, *Windsor-Castle*, and *Somerset-House*, &c. are subjected to the Land Tax through all the succeeding Acts of Parliament. By an Act of the First of King GEORGE, entituled, *An Act to enable his Majesty to grant the Regalities of* North-Wales, South-Wales, and *County of* Chester, *to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales*, &c. it is enacted, "That it shall and may be lawful for the King's most excellent Majesty, by Letters Patent, *&c.* to give and grant unto his said Royal Highness all the said Honours, Castles, *&c.* within the Counties of *Flint*, *Denby*, *Montgomery*, *Carnarvon*, &c and the County *Palatine* of *Chester*, and every or any of them, which do now belong to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, *&c.*—— so nevertheless that the same do not extend to any Taxes, Aids or Revenues whatsoever granted or to be granted to the Crown by Parliament, to or for any public Use or Uses whatsoever; to have and to hold the said Honours, Castles, Lordships, Manor, Messuages, Lands, Tythes, Tenements, Rents, Herediaments, Possessions and Premises, so to be granted as aforesaid unto him the said Prince, and his Heirs, Kings of *Great-Britain;* subject, nevertheless, to such annual and other Payments and Incumbrances as are legally charged thereupon, or usually satisfied out of the Revenues of the same." And upon a Computation of the Revenues of the late Prince of *Wales*, in the Year 1736, when the Land-Tax was at *Two Shillings* in the *Pound*, the Deductions were *Five Thousand Pounds* a Year for the Land Tax upon *Fifty Thousand Pounds*, the *Six-penny* Duty to the Civil List, and the Fees payable at the Exchequer, about *Two Thousand Pounds* more; so that his nett Revenue on the *Fifty Thousand Pounds* a Year, allowed him by the King would not amount to more than *Forty-three Thousand Pounds* yearly, besides his Dutchy of *Cornwall*. By this Estimate we see the Royal Family, for what they received out of the Civil List, were subject to Parliamentary Taxes, until it was otherwise provided by particular Acts; and indeed by the Seventh and Eighth of WILLIAM III. Chap. 17. Sect. 12, it is enacted, "That no Letters Patent, granted by the King's Majesty, or any of his Royal Predecessors, *&c.* shall be construed or taken to exempt any Person, City, Borough, *&c.* or any of the Inhabitants of the same, from the Burden and Charge of any Sum or Sums of Money granted by the Act; and all *Non obstantes*, in such Letter Patent made, or to be made, in Bar of any Act or Acts of Parliament for the Supply or Assistance of his Majesty, are declared to be void, and of none Effect." If upon these, and many other Authorities which might be adduced to the same Purpose, it should appear, that the Revenues of the Crown, and of the Royal Family, are, and have been, subjected to the national Taxes of *Great-Britain*, as well as the Estates of all the Peers and Commoners of our Mother Country, from whence we derive ourselves and our Constitution, it will be difficult to conceive any good Reasons why our Proprietaries, and their great Estate in this Province, should alone, of all his Majesty's Subjects, be exempted from the Payment of Taxes for the Defence and Security of their own Estates. But our Governor is pleased to inform us, "That if we tax them at all, it must be as Proprietaries and Chief Governors, which is the only Capacity by which they are connected with, or related to, the Inhabitants;—— that they hold the Government and Soil under the same Grant, and their Title to both is centered in their Persons, and cannot be separated, without destroying their Authority." Now we certainly have other Connections with *Thomas Penn*, and with *Richard Penn*, beside their being Chief Governors; and I suppose that may separately eject or commence Actions at Law for Rent, or other Actions, in his Majesty's Courts within this Province, in their private Capacity, in the same Manner that other Inhabitants and Freeholders could do in like Cases; and the Powers of Government might have descended through the eldest Branches of the Family, or either of our Proprietaries, without injuring their Property in the Soil: And in this Case, the Governor would have been sufficiently authorized by Commission under him, in whom the Powers of Government were vested. But the Commission of Property (which our Governors have not been concerned with till very lately) would have been insufficient, unless executed by all who had a Property in the Lands, and is now executed by the Governor by Virtue of that Commission in Opposition to his Commission as Lieutenant Governor, which expressly enjoins him not to grant Lands, or otherwise interfere with the Proprietaries Affairs of Property.

But to return as it is evident that the Peers of *Great-Britain* do not vote in the Election of Members to serve in Parliament, yet their Estates are taxed by Bills of Aids, and Supplies to the Crown, which arise out of the House of Commons; I am of Opinion, that the Conclusion the Governor draws from his Reasoning in the Message of the Thirteenth of *August* last, is in direct Opposition to the Rights and Usage of the House of Commons; and consequently our offering a Bill, whereby the Proprietary Estate was to be taxed with all other Estates within this Province, was not against the very Principles of the *British* Constitution, as he would imagine.

'Have the Proprietaries, says the Governor, a Right to vote in the Election of Representatives as Landholders? *Surely not.* Being hereditary Governors of the Province, and having a Vote in Legislature by their own particular Representative the Governor. How then came you by a Right to tax them as Fellow-Subjects and Landholders, seeing they had no Voice in chusing you, nor were intitled to any, though Owners of Land in every Country?'	*To which it may be answered,*	Have the Peers of *Great-Britain* a Right to vote in the Election of Representatives as Landholders? *Surely not.* Being hereditary Peers of *Great-Britain*, and having a Vote in the Legislature by their own particular Representation in the House of Lords. How then came the House of Commons by a Right to tax the Peers as Fellow Subjects, and Landholders, seeing they had no Voice in chusing them, nor were intitled to any, though Owners of Land in every County?

"From the very Principles therefore (says the Governor) of the *British* Constitution, you have no Right to tax them as Freeholders, or Fellow-Subjects." But all this Kind of Reasoning serves only to ease us from the whole Force of it, and leaves the Governor to dispute the Principles of the *British* Constitution with a *British* House of Commons, before whom he will undoubtedly think it his Duty to produce stronger Arguments than these. The Fallacy of this Manner of Reasoning is very obvious.

The Knights, Citizens and Burgesses represent the whole Commons of *England;* but the Peers are present in Parliament for themselves only: As it would be unjust to tax the Peers if they had no Representation in the Legislature, by which they might give their Consent; so it would be equally unjust to tax the Proprietary Estate here, without his Assent by his Representative the Governor.

The Peers and our Proprietaries have their Negatives upon all Bills; but the Equity of taxing themselves, as well as all others, for their common Safety and Defence, induces the Lords to give their Assent to Bills offered to them for that Purpose; and no doubt the same Equity ought to be equally binding on our Proprietaries: And it may be hoped, that all the Restrictions, by which their Deputy is disabled from discharging his Duty, will in due Time, be considered by our Superiors. Our Proprietaries, I presume, have no Right to vote for our Representatives, though they are certainly Land-holders in this Province: And under this Consideration they are exempted from paying Assembly-mens Wages by our County Rate and Levy Act. The Peers of *Great-Britain* are as certainly Landholders, and many of them Burgesses and Members of Corporations; yet they neither vote for the Knights of the Shire or Burgesses; and under the same Consideration are exempted from contributing to their Expences. The Commons petitioned in Parliament, First of RICHARD II. that all Persons having Lay Fee might contribute to the Charge of the Knights.—— The King answered, that the Lords of the Realm would not lose their old Liberties: Yet in the same Reign, by the Twelfth of RICHARD II. Chap. 2. it is enacted, "That if any Lord, or any other Man, Spiritual or Temporal, had purchased any Lands or Tenements, or other Possessions, that were wont to be contributory to such Expences before the Time of the said Purchase, that the said Lands, Tenements and Possessions, and the Tenants of the same, be contributory to the said Expences, as the said Lands, Tenements and Possessions, were wont to be before the Time of the same Purchase," This Law, which hath continued through so many Ages, appears to be founded in Justice and Equity, and will necessarily become the Rule of our Conduct; as for our Paper Money Acts are near expiring, and it may be hoped that no future Assembly will give up their just Rights for the Obtaining of new Emissions, whatever Inconveniences they may labour under for want of them, the Payment of Assemblymens Wages must become very burdensome, if they are to be kept sitting, though to little or no Purpose (as of late) through a great Part of the Year; and especially if our Proprietaries, against our Expectations, should have as much Power as they have Inclination to get their encreasing Estates exempted from bearing any Share of our Taxes; for in this Case we have Reason to apprehend they may judge it their private Interest to improvish the People by exorbitant Impositions, or a Profusion of the Public Money; and as under these Circumstances Pretences will never be wanting, new and grievous Burdens will be repeatedly called for, till by Degrees the Freeholds and Possessions of this young Colony must insensibly fall into the Proprietaries Hands; and thus by the continual Proprietary Exemptions, and the Weight becoming still heavier upon the decreasing Number who may be able, for a While, to bear up, and continue among the Calamities of their Country; these too must at length submit and leave the Colony their Predecessors had cultivated and settle with Honour under a milder Administration."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from the Trustees of the *Province Island* was laid before the House, and read, whereby it appeared that there was a Balance of *Ninety-seven Pounds One Shilling* in their Hands, due to the Province, which they are to pay into the Provincial Treasury as the Law directs.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Governor's Account, amounting to *Five Hundred* and *Ninety-one Pounds Five Shillings* and *One Penny*, and were of Opinion that the same ought to be allowed; but they submitted to the House, whether the Sum of *Twenty-six Pounds Eight Shillings* and *Nine-pence*, should not be deducted out of the Balance of the said Account, being paid by a Committee of Assembly for the Hire of a Waggon and a Half to carry the Present of the Government of the Lower Counties, sent by the Governor to General *Braddock*.—— And the House agreeing that the said Sum ought to be deducted.

An Order was drawn on the Treasurer for the Payment of *Five Hundred* and *Sixty-four Pounds Sixteen Shillings* and *Four-pence* to the Governor, as the Balance of his Account, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts made the following Report in Writing on the *Ohio* Road Accounts, viz.

YOUR Committee have carefully examined the Accounts exhibited to the House by the Commissioners appointed by the Governor for laying out the Road through the Western Parts of this Province for the King's Service, and have hereunto affixed the several Sums and Persons Names to whom they are due, as far as we have been able to compute the same, few Vouchers appearing, and some of the Accounts very irregular by and ambiguously drawn; sundry Overcharges, and Blank Articles; so that there can be no just Estimation made unless the Persons concerned gave their Attendance, otherwise we apprehend the Province may be imposed on; so that we are of Opinion the Commissioners should give their Attendance, or that some Persons be appointed to settle the Accounts with them; nevertheless, we think the Money due to the Labourers should be immediately paid. All which we submit to the House.

EVAN MORGAN, WILLIAM CALLENDER,
JOSEPH STRETCH, JOSEPH FOX."

The House taking the said Report into Consideration,

Resolved, That the Book containing the Labours Accounts be lodged in the Hands of the Treasurer, and that he pay off the respective Balances due to them upon Demand; and that the Remainder of the Accounts relating to the said Road be referred to the Consideration of the next succeeding Assembly.

Upon Motion made, it was

Ordered, That a Set of the old Votes of Assembly, lately printed in three Volumnes, be sent as a Present from this House to Doctor *Fothergill*, in *London*.

The Report of the Committee of Public Accounts being again read, was agreed to by the House, and is as follows, *viz.*

WE, *the* COMMITTEE *appointed by the Assembly of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *to audit and settle the Accounts of the* GENERAL LOAN-OFFICE, *and other Public Accounts; to sink and destroy the Bills of Credit, received in Exchange, pursuant to the several Paper-Money Acts; and to count all the Money, and report what Sum we should actually find in the Trustees Hands*, REPORT,

THAT on the First of the Ninth Month we counted the Money in the Hands of the Trustees of the Loan-Office and found the Sum of Five Thousand Six Hundred and Thirteen Pounds Seven Shillings and Three-pence Halfpenny, ———	£ 5,613 7 3½	
THAT upon a careful Examination of all the Mortgage Deeds (whereon any Quotas are due) taken by Virtue of all the Acts of Assembly for emitting Paper Bills, and now remaining in the Loan-Office undischarged, We find there are principal Sums, or Quotas thereon to become due (after the 15th of the Seventh Month, July last) and payable to the Trustees, the Sum of ——	£ 46,282 5 10	
That the Quotas Outstanding, and at that Time due on all the Mortgagee Deeds in the said Office amounted to ———	20,409 15 0	
Carried forward	£ 66,692 0 10	
Brought over	£ 66,692 0 10	
That it appears by a List of 127 Mortgages, taken on the eighth Re-emission of the second £80,000 Act, that the Trustees have lent out thereon, the Sum of	£ 9,256 0 0	
And by a List of 17 Mortgages, taken on the ninth Re-emission of the same Act, they have lent out thereon, the Sum of	1,198 15 0	£ 10,454 15 0
That the several Sums lent to the City of Philadelphia, are not yet repaid, viz.		

The Balance of the first Sum lent said City, ——	£ 156 0 0	
The Balance of the Sum lent said City for building Alms-houses,	187 10 0	£ 343 10 0
		£ 77,490 5 10
That the Amount of the principal Sums or Quotas now in their Hands, is Two Thousand Five Hundred and Nine Pounds Fourteen Shillings and Two-pence,	2,509 14 2	
Which makes up the total Sum of		£ 80,000 0 0
THAT the Trustees, on Accounts of Interest arising from all the Mortgages, lent out in Pursuance of the several Acts of Assembly, are charged with the Balance due to the Province at the Settlement last Year, Twelve Hundred and Fifty-five Pounds Three Shillings and Five-pence,	£ 1,255 3 5	
And with the Interest outstanding on all the Mortgagee Deeds at last Settlement, ——	8,460 12 3	
		£ 9,715 15 8
To the Interest arising on all the Mortgages for the current Year, ——	£ 2,805 1 5	
To broken Interest received since last Settlement, ——	1,336 8 9	
To Interest recevied at Discharge of several Mortgages, ——	33 7 3	
		£ 4,174 17 5
		£ 13,890 13 1

That the Trustees have Credit for the Interest outstanding and due to the Province on the 13th of Seventh Month, *July* last, which upon a careful Examination of the Indorsements upon all the Mortgages, appears to amount to Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty-five Pounds Five Shillings and Nine-pence,		£ 8,625 5 9
Also for sundry Sums paid by them for Account of the Province, viz.		
Orders for Assemblymens Wages of last Year	£ 731 1 0	
And for John Hall's Service as an Assemblyman, Anno 1750,	7 5 0	738 6 0
By Cash paid the Superintendants of the State-house for an old Account,	£ 60 0 0	
By Ditto for the new Addition,	700 0 0	760 0 0
By Cash paid Anthony Benezet, towards the Support and Passages of sundry French Deserters, at several Times,		30 0 0
By Ditto paid Samuel Kirke, and Edward Kelly, for Fire-wood, &c. at sundry Times,		24 5 0
By Ditto paid Charles Brockden, on Account of drawing and recording Mortgage Deeds, &c.		71 5 0
By Ditto paid Richard Hockley, the annual Allowance to the Proprietaries, by Law		130 0 0

By Ditto for £150 Sterling, remitted to the Provincial Agents, by a Resolve of the House, of the Ninth of first Month last, at 67½ Exchange,	251 5 0	
By Ditto paid Joseph Armstrong and John Smith, towards purchasing Provisions for the King's Use,	450 9 8	
By Ditto sent to James Wright, for same Purpose,	940 0 0	
By Cash paid sundry Indian Expences, viz.		£ 12,020 16 5
Paid Ezekiel Rankin, for Maintenance of the Indians at Augwick,	31 0 0	
Paid Edward Kelly's Daughter to provide Victuals for sundry Indians, on their first Arrival in Town, per Order,	1 0 0	
Paid Henrique, a Mohawk Chief, by the Directions of the Speaker, and several Members of the House, who had a Conference with this Indian and his Company, just on their Departure from this Province, 100 Dollars, at 7 *s.* 6 *d.*	37 10 0	
Sent to the Governor, by Order of the House, for Relief of a Number of Indians who had lately removed on a Western Branch of Susquehanna, and were represented by Conrad Weiser to be in great Distress, and who had applied to this Province for Provisions,	50 0 0	
		£ 119 10 0

By Cash paid the Overseers of the Poor of the City of Philadelphia, towards the Subsistance of several Soldiers Wives, who were sent down here by General Braddock, on his March from Wills's Creek towards the Ohio,	50 0 0	
By one Year's Salary to the Trustees, by Law,	500 0 0	
By Allowance of 55S. per Thousand Pound, on 1,600£ sunk, of torn and ragged Bills of Credit,	4 8 0	
	£ 12,694 14 5	
Balance due to the Province, being the Amount of Interest now in the Hands of Trustees,	1,195 18 8	
		£ 13,890 13 1

WE likewise report, that soon after the Decease of the late Treasurer Michael Lightfoot we proceeded upon the Examination of his Account, and found the State thereof as follows, viz.

The Province has Credit for the Balance due from him at the Settlement the 15th of the Eighth Month, August, 1754,	£ 462 10 10¾
Also for Cash paid him by Joseph Redman, Collector of Excise for the City and County of Philadelphia,	305 19 10
Ditto of John Woolston, Collector for Bucks,	30 0 0
Ditto of Daniel Craig, Collector for Northampton,	44 0 0
Ditto of James Lindsay, Collector for Cumberland,	30 19 6
Ditto of John Hughes, Collector for Berks,	180 6 5½
Ditto of David M'Connaughy, Collector for York,	12 0 3
Carried forward	£ 1,065 16 11¼
Credit brought over	£ 1,065 16 11¼
Ditto of Jeremiah Starr, Collector for Chester,	249 19 0

By Cash for John Hall's Order on the Loan-Office,	7	5	0	
By Ditto received the Balance due from the Trustees of the Province Island, —	86	4	0	
				£ 1409 4 11¼

That the Province is Charged by him with sundry Sums paid by him in Pursuance of the Votes or Orders of the House, viz.

To Cash paid Joseph Hamton, per Order, ———	£ 1	4	0
To Ditto paid John Wooton, per Ditto, ———	7	10	0
To Ditto paid Samuel Kirke,	8	0	0
To Ditto paid Edward Kelly,	15	7	11½
To Ditto paid Benjamin Franklin, per Order ———	57	7	6
To Ditto paid William Franklin, ———	69	0	6
To Ditto paid Plunket Fleeson, ———	4	7	6
To Ditto paid William Franklin, ———	4	16	4
To Ditto paid Evan Morgan,	8	2	0
To Ditto paid Charles Stow,	2	0	0
To Ditto paid Richard Peters, Secretary, for the Indians, ———	300	0	0
To Ditto paid Edward Warner, ———	8	2	0
To Ditto paid Lawrence Growdon, ———	60	0	0
To Ditto paid Thomas Graeme. ———	10	0	0
To Ditto paid Isaac Norris,	30	0	0
To Ditto paid George Croghan, ———	25	0	0
To Ditto paid Richard Peters, ———	62	0	9
To Ditto paid William Callender, ———	8	2	0
To Ditto paid Joseph Fox, —	8	2	0

To Ditto paid Caleb Cowpland,	60	0	0			
To Ditto paid Isaac Norris for Robert Charles,	83	10	0			
To Ditto paid Ditto, for Richard Patridge,	167	0	0			
To Ditto paid William Allen, Esq;	105	0	0			
To Ditto paid Charles Norris, for his Brother Isaac, being Cash advanced by him to George Croghan, for maintanining Indians at Aughwick, &c.	88	3	5			
To Ditto paid Charles Norris, for Lewis Evans, allowed towards his Map of the Provinces,	50	0	0			
To Ditto paid Ditto, for Conrad Weiser,	73	4	0			
	£ 1,315	19	11½			
To his Commissions on £1,342 2 9¾ at Five per Cent,	67	2	2			
	£ 1,383	2	1½			
Balance due to the Province, the Third of First Month, January, 1755,	26	2	9¾			
				£ 1,409	4	11¼

Which was directed by a Vote of the House, of the First of First Month, 1755, to be paid into the Hands of Anthony Benezer, for the Maintenance of French Deserters,

THAT we have examined the Accounts of Joseph Redman, Collector of Excise for the City and County of Philadelphia, and find,

That he Credits the Province, viz.

By Balance due from him at last Settlement,	£171 3 8	
By Amount of Excise from the First of Sixth Month, June, 1754, to the First of Sixth Month, June, 1755,	2,035 4 0	
By sundry Retailers, at Three Pounds per Annum,	171 15 0	
By a Moiety of Fines this Year,	3 10 0	
		£ 2,381 12 8

That he Charges the Province, viz.

To Cash paid the late Treasurer, Michael Lightfoot,	305 19 10	
To Ditto paid the present Treasurer, Samuel Preston Moore,	1,813 15 4	
	£ 2,119 15 2	
To Commissions on these Sums, at Five per Cent,	105 19 9	
	£ 2,225 14 11	
Balance outstanding, due to the Province, the Ninth of Ninth Month,	155 17 9	
		£ 2,381 12 8

That he hath not accounted for any Part of the Sum of £157 10 4, due from the former Collector,

Judah Foulke, having received no Part thereof since the Settlement of last Account.

THAT we have examined the Accounts of John Woolston, Collector of the Excise for the County of Bucks, and find,

That he Credits the Province with Balance due at last Settlement, Anno 1753, —	£ 54 3 8	
By Amount of Excise from the First of June, 1753, to the First of June, 1755, two Years, ——	469 12 8	
By sundry Retailers, at Three Pounds per Annum,	30 0 0	
		£ 553 16 4
That he Charges the Province, to Cash paid the late Treasurer, Michael Lightfoot, per Receipt, ——	£ 242 5 0	
To Cash paid the present Treasurer, Samuel Preston Moore, ——	258 17 6	
	£ 501 2 6	
To his Commissions, at Ten per Cent, ——	50 2 3	
	£ 551 4 9	
Balance due to the Province, the Twenty-sixth of Eighth Month, August,	2 11 7	
		£ 553 16 4

THAT we have examined the Accounts of Jeremiah Starr, Collector of Excise for the County of Chester, and find,

That he Credits the Province with Balance of Account, settled with him, Anno 1753, ——	£ 218 0 2	
By Amount of Excise from the First of Sixth Month, June, 1753, to the First of Sixth Month, 1754, ——	387 5 4	
By Amount of Ditto from the First of Sixth Month, June, 1754, to the First of Sixth Month, June, 1755, ——	438 16 8	
		£ 1,044 2 2

Carried forward

Credit brought over		£ 1,044 2 2
That he Charges the Province, to Cash paid Michael Lightfoot, late Treasurer,	£ 476 2 0	
To Ditto paid Samuel Preston Moore, ——	387 0 0	
	£ 863 2 0	
To his Commissions thereon, at Ten per Cent, ——	86 3 0	
	£ 949 5 0	
Balance due to the Province, the Twenty-eighth of Eighth Month, August, —	94 17 2	£ 1,044 2 2

THAT we have examined the Accounts of James Lindsay, Collector of Excise for the County of Cumberland, and find,

That he is indebted to the Province for Balance of Account settled to the First of Sixth Month, June, 1753,	£ 37 13 1	
To Amount of Excise from that Time to the First of June, 1754, ——	54 7 6	
To Ditto from the First of Sixth Month, June, 1754, to First of Sixth Month, 1755,	46 2 6	£ 138 3 1
That he is to be Credited for Cash paid Michael Lightfoot, late Treasurer, ——	£ 32 19 6	
Ditto paid Samuel Moore, present Treasurer, ——	37 11 6	
	£ 70 11 0	
Commissions thereon, at Ten per Cent, ——	7 1 1	
	£ 77 12 1	

Balance due to the Province, which he says remains uncollected,	60 11 0	
		£ 138 3 1

This Collector appears very deficient.

That we have examined the Account of Daniel Craig, Collector of the Excise for the County of Northampton, and find,

That he Credits the Province with the Amount of Excise from the First of Sixth Month, 1753, to the First of Sixth Month, June, 1754,	£ 82 7 4	
Also with Amount of Excise from 1754, to the First of Sixth Month, June 1755,	91 10 0	
And the Balance due from him at Settlement of Account, 1753,	5 13 11	
		£ 179 11 3
That he Charges the Province, to Cash paid Michael Lightfoot,	£ 74 1 0	
To Ditto paid the present Treasurer,	80 7 0	
	£ 154 8 0	
To Commissions thereon, at Ten per Cent,	15 8 9	
	£ 169 16 9	
Balance now due to the Province the Second of Ninth Month,	9 14 6	
		£ 179 11 3

THAT we have examined the Accounts of John Hughes, Collector of Excise for the County of Berks, and find,

The Balance due from him to the Province at last Settlement, the Twenty-ninth of Eighth Month, 1753, to be—	£ 88 12 0	
That he Credits the Province with Amount of Excise from the First of Eighth Month, August, 1753, to the First of Eighth Month, August, 1754, —	332 7 8	
Sundry Retailers, —	26 12 2	
A Moiety of a Fine recovered,	2 10 0	
	£ 450 1 10	
And with the Amount of Excise from August, 1754, to 1755, —	291 13 8	
Sundry Retailers, —	19 10 4	£ 761 5 10
That he Charges the Province for Cash paid Michael Lightfoot, late Treasurer,	£ 278 5 11½	
Ditto paid Samuel Preston Moore, —	285 0 0	
	£ 563 5 11½	
His Commissions at Ten per Cent, —	56 6 6½	
	£ 619 12 6	
Balance due to the Province, —	141 13 4	£ 761 5 10

THAT we have examined the Accounts of Samuel Preston Moore, the Provincial Treasure, and find he Credits the Province, viz.

By Cash received of John Hughes, Collector for Berks, —	£ 285 0 0
By Ditto of Joseph Redman, Collector for Philadelphia,–	1,813 15 4

By Ditto of John Woolston, Collector for Bucks,	258 17 6	
By Ditto of Arthur Patterson, Collector for Lancaster,	130 11 0	
By Ditto of Jeremiah Starr, Collector for Chester,	387 0 0	
By Ditto of Daniel Craig, Collector for Northampton,	80 7 0	
By Ditto of David M'Connaughy, Collector for York,	35 18 0	
By Ditto of John Bassonet, and Peter White, in Part of a Debt due from John Hall, former Collector for Bucks,	16 0 0	
By Ditto of James Lindsay, Collector for Cumberland,	37 11 6	
By the Executors of Michael Lightfoot, for the Order of the Committee of Accounts on them, for two Errors in the Account settled with them, being short Credit in Cash paid by Jeremiah Starr, the 3rd of 12th Mo. 1754, £ 6 4 6 And Omission of Cash paid by Daniel Craig, the 9th of 11th Mo. 1754. 11 0 0	17 4 6	
	Carried forward	£ 3,062 4 10
	Credit brought over	£ 3,062 4 10

That he Charges the Province for Sundry Sums paid in Pursuance of the Votes or Orders of the House, viz.

To Cash paid William Allen Esq; which with One Hundred and Five Pounds paid by the former Treasurer, is in full of his Salary as Chief Justice,	£ 95 0 0
To Ditto paid Governor Morris, per Order of the House,	500 0 0

To Ditto paid Ditto, for Maintenance of Indians,,	150	0	0
To Ditto paid Goerge Croghan, for Indians,	69	19	0
To Ditto paid Robert Callender and Michael Teaff, for Goods delivered to the Half-King and other Indians,	56	0	0
To Ditto paid Thomas Kenton, for Goods delivered George Croghan, for a Present for the Shawanese Indians,	42	0	0
To Ditto paid William Anderson, for Indians at Carlisle,	7	0	0
To Ditto paid John Davidson, Indian Interpreter, for Services,	3	0	0
To Ditto paid John Harris, to bury the Half-King,	18	10	9
To David Magaw, for Indian Expences, in Part of an Order of George Croghan's, allowed,	30	0	0
To George Hutchinson, on Account of George Croghan, for Indian Expences,	55	0	0
To John and William Madole, for Ditto,	132	0	0
To Richard Peters, for Indian Expences,	104	1	6
To Thomas Jervis, for going Express to Cumberland,	5	4	11
To Paul Pierce, for Indian Expences, per Order of George Croghan on the Secretary, allowed by the House,	47	5	0
To Cash paid John Ferguson, Passage of Indians to Amboy,	2	7	6
To Daniel Light, for going Express to Wills's Creek,	15	0	0
To Joseph Fox, to pay Road-Cutters,	54	0	0
To James Wright, to pay Thomas Robinson for Horse-hire,	3	13	0
To Ditto, to pay Ditto for like Service,	1	10	0
To Conrad Weiser, in full of his several Accounts, for Indian Expences,	135	6	1
To Ditto, for Balance allowed him the Seventeenth of December last for Ditto,	10	7	4
To James M'Cord, per Order of Committee of Accounts,	1	5	0
To William Callender, for Indian Expences,	63	9	9

	£	s.	d.
To Isaac Norris, Esq; to buy Bills for the Agent, £ 200 Sterling, at 68 per Cent,	336	0	0
To Andrew Montour, in Consideration of his late Losses with the Indians at the Defeat of General Braddock,	50	0	0
To Cash paid Conrad Weiser, to be paid John Harris in full for Indian Expences	13	4	6
To Ditto, paid Ditto, for Scarroyady, and other Indians,	15	0	0
To Cash paid Charles Norris, to be burnt by Law of 1746,	500	0	0
To Ditto paid James Wright, for Purchase of Provisions for the King's Use,	133	0	0
	£ 2,649	4	4
To his Commissions on the above Sum, at Five per Cent,	132	9	2
	£ 2,781	13	6
Balance due to the Province, the Eighteenth of Ninth Month, 1755.	280	11	4
	£ 3,062	4	10

THAT we have examined the Accounts of David M'Connaughy, Collector of Excise for the County of York, the State whereof we find as follows, viz.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
That he Credits the Province for the Balance of last Account, settled to the First of June, 1753,	£ 38	6	2½			
By Excise from that Time to the First of June, 1754,	58	18	9			
By Ditto, from the First of June, 1754, To Ditto, 1755,	67	2	5			
				£ 164	7	4½
That he Charges the Province for Cash paid Michael Lightfoot, late Treasurer,	£ 34	3	9			
Ditto paid Samuel Preston Moore present Treasurer, –	35	18	0			

Also Twenty-one Pounds Fourteen Shillings, which was paid since the Settlement of the Treasurer's Account,	21	14	0			
	£ 91	15	9			
To Commissions at Ten per Cent,	9	3	6¾			
	£ 100	19	3¾			
Balance due to the Province, September 20, 1755,	63	8	0¾	£ 164	7	4½
That Arthur Patterson, Collector of Excise for the County of Lancaster, hath not exhibited any Account to us, nor de we find any Account settled with him since the Year 1753; but that he hath paid the late Treasurer Michael Lightfoot,	£ 50	0	0			
And to the Present Treasurer, Samuel Preston Moore,	130	11	0			
Which makes the Sum paid by him since last Settlement,	£ 180	11	0			
That it appears by the Report of the Committee last Year there remained in the Hands of the Trustees, for Exchange of defaced and ragged Bills, the Sum of	£ 3,302	6	8			
Of which we have burnt the Sum of	1,600	0	0			
Which leaves in the Hands of the Trustees, for Exchange of old and ragged Bills of Credit, the Sum of,	£ 1,702	6	8			
				£ 1,702	6	8

That in Pursuance of the Act passed in the Year 1746, for granting £ 5.000 to the King's Use, we have burnt the yearly Quota directed by Law, being Five Hundred Pounds ————	£ 500	0	0

And we find on inspecting the Reports of former Committee, that there remains the Sum of One Thousand Pounds, to be burnt at the Expiration of said Act.

We submit these Accounts, with the others, to the Observation and Correction of the House.

Philadelphia, the 20*th of* Ninth Month, September, 1755.

WILLIAM CALLENDER, JOSEPH FOX,
EVAN MORGAN, JAMES PEMBERTON."
JOSEPH STRETCH,

Sundry Accounts of Services done the Public were reported on by the Committee of Incidental Charges, and such Allowances made as the House judged reasonable.

The Accounts from *George Croghan* are referred to the Consideration of the next succeeding Assembly.

Ordered, That the Minutes of this and the two last Sittings of Assembly be printed with all possible Speed; and that a Copy thereof be delivered to the Governor when finished.

Then the several Orders for the Payment of Members Wages, the Salaries of Officers, and other Incidental Charges, being signed by the Speaker, according to Order,

The House rose.

INCIDENTAL CHARGES

To *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq; by Order of Assembly, *October* 18, 1754, ————	£ 500	0	0
To *William Allen*, Esq; Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, ————	200	0	0
To *Lawrence Growdon*, Esq; second Judge of Ditto, ————	60	0	0
To *Caleb Cowpland*, Esq; third Judge of Ditto, ————	60	0	0
To *Richard Patridge*, Esq; his Salary as Agent, £ 100 Sterling, ————	170	0	0
To *Robert Charles*, Esq; his Salary as Agent, £ 100 Sterling, ————	170	0	0

To the Speaker for immediate Services,	35	0	0
To the Members of Assembly for their Attendance,	1,210	19	6
To *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq; Balance of his Account of Disbursements for *Indian* and other public Expences, as per Account,	564	16	4
To *Evan Morgan*, 27 Days on the Committee of Accounts,	8	2	0
To *Joseph Fox*, 27 Days on Ditto,	8	2	0
To *Joseph Stretch*, 27 Days on Ditto,	8	2	0
To *James Pemberton*, 27 Days on Ditto,	8	2	0
To *William Callender*, 27 Days on Ditto,	8	2	0
To *Joseph Hamton*, 1 Day on Ditto,	0	6	0
To *Richard Peters*, Esq; his Salary as Clerk to the Council,	15	0	0
To Ditto, his Account for Warrants to affix the Great Seal, *&c.*	12	12	6
To *Richard Hockley*, his Account for Affixing the Great Seal,	6	3	0
To *Charles Brockden*, his Account as Master of the Rolls,	4	16	5
To *Benjamin Franklin*, his Account for printing Votes, *&c.*	429	19	0
To *William Franklin*, Clerk to the House, 119 Days, at 6 *s. per Diem*,	35	14	0
To Ditto his Account for Postage of Public Letters to the Governor,	20	0	0
To Ditto, his Account for Ditto to the Speaker,	1	3	1
To Ditto, his Account for Transcribing, Ingrossing, *&c.*	109	4	9
To Doctor *Graeme*, for Medicines, and Attendance on the *Indians*,	26	3	8
To *Charles Stow*, for summoning Fifty-two Councils, At *Two Shillings* and *Six-pence* each,	5	12	6
To *Plunket Fleeson*, his Account, for putting up Window Curtains *&c.*	1	9	6
To *Samuel Kirke*, his Salary, as Serjeant at Arms,	8	0	0
To *Edward Kelly*, for his Attendance as Doorkeeper to the House, 119 Days, at *Four Shillings per* Day,	23	16	0
To Ditto, for Disbursements for the *Indians*, as *per* his Account,	14	7	1

To Ditto, for Cleaning the House, Brushes, *&c.*	2	11	0
To *Thomas Walker*, his Account for 3,517 Pound of Meat for the *Indians*,	43	19	3
To *William Smith*, his Account for Indians,	2	13	3
To *Edmund Nihell*, his Account for Small-beer for the *Indians*,	2	0	0
To *William Baker*, his Account for Bread, and baking Meat for the *Indians*,	11	16	0
To *William Davis*, his Account for a Litter to carry the lame *Indian* upon,	0	8	6
To *George Honey*, his Account for *C. Weiser's*, and *Indians* Expences	10	4	5
To *John Elder*, his Account for three Hogs taken by the *Indians*,	3	0	0
To *Thomas Jervis*, his Account for *Indians*, £ 40 8 5 To Ditto, his former Account allowed, but no Order drawn, 10 2 10	50	11	3
To *Conrad Weiser's Indian* Charges, and Allowance for Trouble,	59	3	7
To *John Harris*, his Account for *Indians*, and for his Trouble,	77	7	8
To *Joshua Pearson*, and seven other Constables of *Philadelphia*, attending *Indians*,	8	10	0
To *Hannah Boyd*, her Account, for *Montour* and *Indians*	10	5	1
To *William Buchannan*, his Account for Horse-hire, for Express	1	12	6
Carried forward	£ 4,009	15	10
Brought over	£ 4,009	15	10
To *Adam Terrence*, for Attendance on *Indians*, and Horse-hire, 52 Days, at *Three Shillings per* Day,	7	16	0
To *Michael Teaff*, for dieting *Indians*, &c.	25	10	0
To *Indian* Expences on their Journey to *Philadelphia* at sundry Places on the Road, as by an Account exhibited by the Committee, *August* 22, 1755.	29	6	11
	£ 4072	8	9

GENERAL EXPENCES *of the Province of* PENNSYLVANIA, *from the* 14th *of* OCTOBER, 1754, *to the* 30th *of* SEPTEMBER, 1755.

VOTED to *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq; Governor, on his Arrival to this Government, *Five Hundred Pounds*,		500 0 0
For Maintenance and Relief of *French* Deserters,		46 2 9
For Maintenance and Presents to *Indians* in our Alliance,	£ 1,562 19 9	1,612 19 9
A Present to *Andrew Montour*, in Consideration of his Losses at the Defeat of General *Braddock*,	50 0 0	
The Governor's Account of Maintenance of *Indians*, Payment of Expresses, *&c.*		564 16 4
For *Lewis Evans*, towards his Map of this and the adjacent Provinces,		50 0 0
For Maintenance of Soldiers Wives sent to this City by General *Braddock*, on his March from Fort *Cumberland*,		45 7 11
Remittance to the Agents at *London*, for their Salary, and for the Service of the Province,		591 5 0
Hire of Expresses,		21 15 6
For Provisions for the King's Troops, in Pursuance of the Orders from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, one of the Secretaries of State,	£ 5000 0 0	
Provisions for the King's Forces, requested by the Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*,	10000 0 0	
Provisions besides the above, for the King's Use,	700 0 0	
		15,700 0 0
Charge of cutting a Road for the King's Service, at the Instance of General *Braddock*, from the Western Settlements of this Province towards the *Ohio*, about 68 Miles; besides several Accounts not yet brought in,		3,001 1 10
For the King's Service, to be sent to the Inhabitants of *Cumberland County*,		1000 0 0

Assemblymens Wages, Salaries to the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Secretary, Clerk of the Assembly, and other public ordinary Expences, ——	2,353 10 6
	£25,486 19 7

Account of Blankets, Jackets, Stockings, *&c.* for the Forces under General *Johnson*, not yet adjusted.

A BILL, entituled, *An* ACT *for raising* FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS, *for the King's Use, by a Tax of* TWELVE-PENCE *per* POUND, *and* TWENTY SHILLINGS *per* HEAD *yearly, for Two Years, on all the Estates Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province.*

WHEREAS, the King's Service at this Time requires extraordinary Supplies from this Province, and the Treasury (by the several Sums of Money already given by this Assembly, for purchasing Provisions for the King's Forces, erecting and maintaining Posts, clearing Roads, maintaining of *Indians*, and other heavy Charges for King's Use) is exhausted. And forasmuch, as the Honourable THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, Esquires, our Proprietaries, may, and we presume will, consider it their highest Duty and Interest to contribute chearfully their Part for the common Good of themselves and all other the Inhabitants of this Province, under the present Pressure of our Affairs: WE the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, being desirous of demonstrating our Duty to our Sovereign, and willing to give a further Testimony of our Loyalty, and the most sincere Affection of his loving Subjects within this Province, Do pray that it may be enacted, AND BE IT ENACTED by the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor, under the Honourable THOMAS PENN and RICHARD PENN, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, upon *Delaware*, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province, in General Assembly met, and by the Authority of the same, That there shall be levied and raised upon all the Estates, Real and Personal, within this Province, of all and every Person and Persons (the Estates of the Honourable THOMAS PENN, and RICHARD PENN, Esquires, Proprietaries of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, not excepted) the Sum of *Twelve-pence* for every *Pound*, clear Value of the said Estate, yearly, for the Space of Two Years, to be paid by the Owners or Possessors thereof. And that every single Freeman, whether residing with his Parents, or alsewhere, who, at the Time of the Assessment, shall be of the Age of Twenty-one Years, and hath been out of his Apprenticeship or Servitude for the Space of Six Months, and is not worth in Goods or Chattels *Thirty Pounds*, shall pay the Sum of *Twenty Shillings*. All which said several Sums, so to be raised as aforesaid, shall be assessed and levied as in and by an Act passed in the Eleventh Year of the late King GEORGE the First, entituled, *An Act for raising of County Rates and Levies*, is directed to be assessed and levied. And that every Article, Clause and Thing therein contained, concerning the Assessing, and levying Taxes, shall be used, exercised, and put in Practice, for assessing and levying the Tax hereby imposed, as if the same Articles, Clauses and Things were inserted in this Act, except in such Cases as are herein ascertained, provided for, or altered,

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority afore said, That the Commissioners of the respective Counties, or any two of them, shall, within Ten Days after the Publication of this Act, issue forth their Precepts, directed to the Constables of every Township, requiring them to bring to the respective Assessors, within Three Weeks next after the Date of such Precepts, fair and true Certificates in Writing, upon their Oaths or Affirmations, of the Names and Surnames of all and every the Persons dwelling, or residing within the Limits of those Townships or Places, as in and by the herein before-mentioned Act for raising of County Rates and Levies, and as by his present Act is particularly set forth, and directed to be assessed.

BUT before the Commissioners and Assessors shall take upon them the respective Service and Duty by this Act required of them, they shall take an Oath or Affirmation to the Effect following, *that is to say;*

THOU *shall well and truly cause the Rates and Sums of Money, by Virtue of this Act imposed, to be duly and equally assessed, and laid, according to the best of thy Skill and Knowledge, and herein thou shalt spare no Person for Favour or Affection, nor grieve any for Hatred or Ill-will.*

Which Qualification shall be administered as in and by the said Act for raising County Rates and Levies is enjoined and required.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That if the said Commissioners or Assessors shall refuse or neglect to perform and discharge the Duties required of them by this Act, each and every of the said Commissioners or Assessors so refusing, shall forfeit and pay to the Provincial Treasurer the Sum of *Twenty Pounds.*

PROVIDED ALWAYS, That all Fines and Forfeitures arising by Virtue of this Act, shall be levied as in the aforesaid Act for raising of County Rates and Levies, is directed, and shall be paid and added to the public Provincial Stock, Provided, also, that the Constables shall have and receive for their Care and Trouble in executing and returning the Precepts by the herein last-mentioned Act directed and enjoined, *one Half-penny per Pound*, and no more. And that the Assessors, for their Time and Labour in their Assessments, shall be allowed *One-penny Half-penny per Pound*, upon the whole Sum contained in the Rates of their respective Counties, after the Assessment is rectified and adjusted by the Commissioners, and no more. And that the County Treaurers shall be allowed for their Care and Trouble *One per Cent* for all Monies by them received and paid, and no more. And that the Collectors shall retain in their Hands for all Sums of Money by them respectively collected, *Three-pence per Pound*, and no more, any Thing in this Act, or in the aforesaid Act, "for raising of County Rates and Levies," to the contrary notwithstanding.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That if the said Collector or Collectors shall refuse or neglect to take upon him or themselves the Trust and Duty required of him or them by this Act, he or they so refusing shall forfeit and pay to the County Treasurer the Sum of *Ten Pounds;* and the Assessors shall appoint some other fit Person or Persons in the Place or Stead of the Collector or Collectors so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That all the Sum or Sums of Money levied by the Collectors of the respective Districts throughout this Province, by Virtue of this Act, shall be paid by the said Collectors to the County Treasurers, and by the County Treasurers, respectively, into the Hands of the Provincial Treasurer, for the King's Use.

AND whereas some Owners of Land, whereon Improvements are made, may not reside in the same County or District where such Land lies, whereby it may be difficult to recover or collect the Tax assessed on the said Land, BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the Tenant or other Person residing on, and having the Care of such Lands, their Goods and Chattels, and the Goods and Chattels of the Landlord (on his Refusal or Neglect to pay) if there found, shall be liable to be distrained for the Payment of the said Tax. And in case the Tenant, or Person having the Care thereof, shall pay, or their Goods be distrained for the same, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Tenant to deduct the Tax so paid out of the Rent agreed for; and for the Tenant or Tenants, or Person having Care of the said Land, to recover the same from the Owner, by Action of Debt, in any Court where the same shall be cognizable, together with Costs of Suit; PROVIDED, That nothing in this Act shall in any Manner alter any Contract heretofore made between any Landlord and Tenant.

AND forasmuch as large Tracts of valuable Land have been located and held in this Province without Intention of Improvement, but merely in Expectation of receiving hereafter higher Prices for private Advantage, by Means whereof those Lands remain uncultivated, and great Numbers of People have been necessitated to leave this Province and settle in other Colonies, where Lands are more easily purchased, to the manifest Injury and Charge of the Public: And forasmuch as those Lands, by the Act for raising County Rates and Levies, herein before mentioned, are exempted, and cannot by the Laws now in being be taxed, it is thought reasonable on this Occasion to settle the Manner by which the said Lands shall be assessed and rated in their Proportion of the Tax hereby imposed, on all the Estates, Real and Personal, within this Province; BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That all such located and unimproved Lands shall be rated according to their Situation and Value at any Prices not exceeding *Fifteen Pounds*, nor under *Five Pounds*, for every Hundred Acres of such unimproved Land. And if the Owner or Owners of the said Lands, or some Person or Persons for them, do not appear, or shall neglect or refuse to pay the Rates assessed thereon by the Space of Thirty Days, after the Days of Appeal, then, and so often as this shall happen, the said Lands, together with the Rates assessed thereon, shall be advertised in the Township or County in which such Lands do lie, or in the Place or Town where such Owner or Owners dwell. And the Commissioners of the respective Counties shall, and they are hereby required to give public Notice thereof in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, for at least Three Months, that Sale will be made of such Part of the said Lands as shall be sufficient to discharge the Taxes due for the same, and all Charges accruing by Reason of the Refusal or Non-payment thereof. And if the Owner or Owners of such Lands, or some Person or Persons in their Behalf, do not appear and discharge and pay the said Taxes, with all Charges as aforesaid, then the said Commissioners of the respective Counties are authorized and hereby impowered to sell the said Land, or so much thereof as aforesaid, by public Vendue, to such Person or Persons as may appear and give most for the same; returning the Overplus, if any be, to the Owner or Owners of such Lands, or their legal Representative as aforesaid, after all the necessary Charges deducted. And when any Sale of such Land shall be so as aforesaid made by the Sheriff or Coroner respectively, pursuant to this Act, the Title and conveyance thereof shall be by Deed signed, sealed and delivered, by the Sheriff or Coroner, to such Person or Persons as shall purchase the same in Fee-sinple, which shall be most absolute and available in Law against the said Delinquents, and their Heirs and Assigns, and all claiming under them. ,

AND whereas many Persons residing in this Province have seated themselves on certain large Tracts of Land, neither having Property therein, or paying Rent for the same, yet nevertheless do actually hold and occupy certain Parts thereof, and therefrom do receive the like common Benefits that the Freeholders of this Province do generally receive from their Fee-simple Estates; and to exempt such Persons, seated as aforesaid, from paying their just Proportion of the Taxes herein directed to be levied, for the Lands they severally hold and occupy as aforesaid, would be a manifest Injury to the said Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of this Province, made rateable by this Act: For remedying whereof, BE IT ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Person or Persons, residing within this Province, seated on, occupying and holding Lands, not having the Property thereof, or paying Rent for the same, shall, notwithstanding, give a true Account of the particular Parts of all such Land which they are respectively seated on, both clear and Wood-land, as much as they pretend to hold, to the Assessors of this Province respectively when thereunto required, and shall pay their several and respective Taxes for the same in like Manner as the Freeholders aforesaid are liable to do by Virtue of the Directions of this Act; and upon neglecting or refusing to give such Accounts, and pay such Taxes as aforesaid, shall be subject to the like Pains and Penalties as the said Freeholders are subject to by Virtue of the Directions of this Act, or by the before-mentioned Act for raising County Rates and Levies.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the Commissioners and Assessors of the County of *Philadelphia* at their Meeting, on the Return of the Commissioners Precepts, or at any other Time, shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, by all lawful Means, to acquaint themselves with, and procure the Amount, as near as they are able, of the Proprietaries Estate in Quitrents, throughout this Province, and thereupon impartially to assess and tax the same, in the same Manner as other Estates are assessed and taxed in the respective Counties by Virtue of this Act.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That *Isaac Norris*, *James Hamilton*, and *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquires, *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox*, Gentlemen, with the Consent and Approbation of the Governor of this Province, or with the Consent and Approbation of the Commander in Chief of the King's Forces in *North-America*, for the Time being, shall order and appoint the Disposition of the Monies, arising by Virtue of this Act, for the King's Use. And that the said *Isaac Norris*, *James Hamilton*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox*, or a Majority of them, shall, and they are hereby impowered and required, as often as there shall be Occasion of Money for the Purpose aforesaid, to draw Orders upon the Provincial Treasurer, for the same; which Orders, so drawn and paid by the said Treasurer, shall be produced to the Committees of Assembly for the Time being, and by them allowed in Discharge of so much of the Monies as shall be by the said Provincial Treasurer received by Virtue of this Act, so as the whole Sum of the Orders so drawn do not exceed the Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* current Money of this Province. All which said Orders shall be payable out of the Taxes imposed by this Act, with Interest at the Rate of *Five per Cent per Annum*, from the respective Dates thereof, for and during the Continuance of this Act, and no longer. And the Monies arising out of the Taxes hereby imposed, shall be, and are hereby declared to be and remain as a Security for the Payment of the said Orders, so as aforesaid to be drawn on the Provincial Treasurer. And the said Treasurer is hereby impowered and required to apply the same accordingly.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the Orders to be drawn, and issued, as is herein before directed, shall be prepared, signed, and numbered, in such Form and Manner as the said *Isaac Norris*, *James Hamilton*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Evan Morgan* and *Joseph Fox* shall judge most convenient for preventing Counterfeits and Forgeries. And if any Person or Persons shall forge or counterfeit, alter or erase, any of the said Orders, issued by Virtue of this Act, or shall offer in Payment by Way of Barter, or otherwise, to any Person whatsoever, or shall demand a Redemption of any such Order at the Treasury, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited, altered or erased, every such Person or Persons so offending, being thereof legally convicted, shall incur and suffer the same Pains and Penalties as Forgers or Counterfeiters of the Bills of Credit of this Province.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the Provincial Treasurer shall, and he is hereby impowered and required to order and direct the County Treasurers respectively, so often as he shall think necessary, to lay before him the Books and Accounts of the Rates and Assessments, and to pay the Money that shall be in their or any of their Hands by Virtue of this Act. And if thereupon the said County Treasurers, or either of them, shall neglect or refuse to produce his said Books and Accounts, and to pay the Monies in his or their Hands, according to the Direction of this Act, the said Provincial Treasurer may, and shall, forthwith proceed against such County Treasurer, or Treasurers, so neglecting or refusing, in the same Manner as the County Commissioners are directed to proceed against delinquent Collectors in the before recited act for raising County Rates and Levies, in order to recover the Monies due to the Provincial Treasury from such delinquent County Treasurer. And the said Provincial Treasurer, for his Trouble in receiving and paying the Monies, and performing the Duties by this Act required, shall have and receive *Ten Shillings* for every *Hundred Pounds*, and no more.

THE GOVERNOR'S proposed AMENDMENTS to the Bill, entituled, *An* ACT *for raising* FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS *for the King's Use, by a Tax of* TWELVE-PENCE PER POUND *and* TWENTY SHILLINGS per Head, yearly, for *Two Years, on all the Estates Real and Personal, and Taxables within this Province.*

No.

1. DELE from the Word [*from*] down to the Word [*Affairs.*]
2. *Dele* the Word [*not*] and insert the Word [*only*]
3. After the Word [*Shillings*] *insert* [*except such are now, or hereafter shall be, engaged in his Majesty's Service.*]
4. After the Word [*this*] add [*or the before-mentioned*]

5. *Dele* the Words [*the herein last-mentioned*] and instead thereof insert the Word [*this*]
6. After the Word [*Use*] add [BUT BE IT FURTHER ENACTED *by the Authority aforesaid, That before the said Provincial Treasurer, or the said respective County Treasurers, for the Time being, shall receive any of the Monies to be raised by Virtue of this Act, they shall severally become bound with one or more Sufficient Sureties, as follows*, that is to say, *The said Provincial Treasurer, for the Time being in an Obligation of* Pounds *to the Governor, or Commander in Chief of this Province, for the Time being, and the several County Treasurers within this Province, each, in an Obligation of* *unto the Commissioners of the proper County, conditioned for the true and faithful Performance and Discharge of their Duty respectively, in the Execution and Observance of this Act.*]
7. *Dele* the Word [*and*] and instead thereof insert the Word [*or*]
8. *Dele* from the Word [*Levies*] all the next following Clause.
9. *Dele* the Word [*and*] next before the Word [*Franklin*]
10. After the Word [*Franklin*] add [*and John Mifflin.*]
11. After the Word [*Gentlemen*] add the Words [*the major Part of them, or of the survivors of them.*]
12. After the Word [*Governor*] add the Words [*or Commander in Chief*]
13. *Dele* from the Word [*Province*] to the Word [*for*]
14. After the Word [*Franklin*] add [*John Mifflin*]
15. After the Word [*them*] add the Words [*or of the Survivor of them*]
16. After the Word [*same*] add the Words [*whereon there shall be an Endorsement, signed by the Governor, or Commander in Chief of this Province, for the Time being, signifying his Approbation thereof*]
17. After the Word [*and*] in the same Line, add the Words [*endorsed being*]
18. After the Word [*same*] add [*to the Payment of the said Orders*]
19. After the Word [*Franklin*] add [*John Mifflin*]

20. Add the following Clause AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED *by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Surplus of the Monies, to be levied and raised by Virtue of this Act, shall remain, after all the said Orders so to be drawn as aforesaid on the said Provincial Treasurer, with the Interest thereon, shall be fully paid, and all incident Charges, and just Allowances and Deductions made, that then such Surplus shall remain in the Hands of the Provincial Treasurer, for the Time being, to be applied to the King's Use, in such Manner as by Act of General Assembly of this Province shall be hereafter ordered and directed.*]

APPENDIX *to the* VOTES *of the Assembly,*
From OCTOBER, 1754, *to* OCTOBER, 1755.

BY the Governor's Message to the Assembly on the 24th of *September*, 1755, it would be natural to suppose, that the Commissioners appointed by the Governor for opening the Roads towards the *Ohio*, had never estimated the Charge of cutting and opening those Roads at *Eight Hundred Pounds*, or at least, if they had ever made such an Estimate, that the Governor had never *seen* nor *heard of it;* for in that Message he was pleased to tell the House, "You charge me with contriving all possible Methods of Expence to exhaust your Funds and distress your Affairs, and give an Instance of an exorbitant Demand of *Five Thousand Pounds*, for cutting the Road for the Use of the Army, an Undertaking, you say, I engaged you in, on a Computation of its costing only *Eight Hundred Pounds;*—— a pretended Estimate, of which I am totally ignorant, having never *seen* nor *heard of* One. The Sum of *Eight Hundred Pounds* might have been mentioned, as what it would cost in some Mens private Opinion, but *not* upon an *Estimate of the Commissioners*, nor as such sent to me." The House were much surprized at this Paragraph of the Governor's Message, as it related to a Fact very fresh in their Memories; but having returned the Papers the Governor had laid before the House, by a verbal Message of the 25th of *September*, they desired, "The Governor would be pleased to let them have a Sight of those Letters and Papers, relating to the *Ohio* Road, which were laid before the House on the 13th of May, and since returned the Governor." On the 26th the Members appointed "brought down sundry Papers relateing to the *Ohio* Road, which the Secretary told them were those laid before the House on the 13th of *May* last."

These Papers were endorsed from Number One to near Twenty, but some of the intermediate Numbers were wanting, particularly the very Letters we were enquiring after, which obliged the House to answer with the Caution they used in their Message to the Governor, dated the 29th of *September* last.

The original Papers were not then to be had, being either in the Governor's or the Secretary's Custody; but it appearing some Time after, that the Clerk had taken authentic Copies of them, and that the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the Assembly on the 3rd of *January*, had kept fair Minutes of their Transactions, in Pursuance of that Resolve, the same were examined, and the following are true Extracts therefrom, *viz.*

At a Meeting of the Committee, and such Members of Assembly as were in Town, called to their Assistance, April 24, 1755.

'The Secretary laid before us a Letter from *George Croghan*, and others, Commissioners for laying out Roads though this Province towards the *Ohio*, which was read, as also a Letter from the Governor to this Committee, in the following Words, *viz.*

BY a Letter I received this Morning from the Commissioners for running out the Roads over the Hills, I find the Flour, ordered to be provided for the Army, has not been yet delivered at the Place agreed on, and the Retardation of the March, with the Consequences that may thence ensue, is ascribed by Sir *John St. Clair* to this Delay, and the not clearing proper Roads. I am indeed much surprized at the Flour's not having been delivered according to the Time fixed, and urge you to do all in your Power to expedite the Delivery of it. I think Orders should issue immediately by the Return of the Express, to have the Roads cleared with all possible Expedition, at the Expence of the Province, and desire Supplies may be forthwith sent for that Purpose.

The *Susquehanna Indians* expect a Present, *&c.*

Gentlemen, *Your most humble Servant,*

To *Isaac Norris*, Esq; Speaker,
Evan Morgan, Joseph Fox,
and *James Pemberton*, Esquires.
ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The above Letter from "the Commissioners for running out the Roads over the Hills," so far as immediately relates to the said Roads, follows in these Words, *viz.*

'Honoured SIR, *Fort Cumberland*, April 16, 1755.

IN Pursuance of your Commission, we set out on the Road from *Carlisle* on the 29th of *March*, and with the greatest Industry reached the Waters of the *Yohiogain* on the 11th Instant. We stopped at about Eighteen Miles on this Side the *Three Forks*, and would have proceeded further, had we not certain Intelligence of great Numbers of *French* and *Indians*, hunting and scouting, *&c.* Our *Indians* all fled us, some at *Ray's* Town, and some on the *Allegheny* Hills, save one *Delaware*. We were very fortunate in finding a good Road all the Way, and particularly through the *Allegheny* Hills, considering how mountainous that Country is; from *Parnal's Knab*, or *M'Dowell's Mill*, to where we stopped, is about Sixty-nine

Miles, and were it not for the Interposition of Mountains, would not be so far by Ten or Fifteen Miles. The Expence of making the Road *Thirty* Feet wide, and the principal Pinches *Twenty*, WILL MAKE AN EXPENCE OF ABOUT EIGHT HUNDRED POUNDS, *&c.*

We are, honoured Sir, your most humble Servants,

GEORGE CROGHAN, WILLIAM BUCHANAN,
JAMES BURD, ADAM HOOPS."
JOHN ARMSTRONG,

The Committee, after due Consideration of the Matters laid before them, returned the following Answer to the Governor; and the other Members of Assembly present, agreeing with the said Answer, at the Request of the Committee, signed it jointly with them, *viz.*

AS the executive Part of the Government neither is, nor ought to be, vested in the Assemblies of this Province, we can only declare our Concern the Governor had not been pleased to pass our Bill, in which the Clearing of the Roads, and all the Purposes recommended to us by the Crown, had been provided for, according to our Abilities, Nevertheless, as we are willing to do every Thing in our Power for the King's Service and the Welfare of this Province, we have

Resolved, That the following Minute be signed by all the Members present, and sent to the Governor, *viz.*

We are unanimously of Opinion, that the Assembly will very chearfully defray the reasonable Expences arising upon the Opening such Roads as may be judged necessary for the March of the King's Troops through this Province towards the *Ohio.*

We are also of Opinion, that some small Present should be made to the *Indians*, at the Expence of the Province, *&c.*

ISAAC NORRIS, JOSEPH TROTTER,
EVAN MORGAN, JAMES PEMBERTON,
JOSEPH FOX, WILLIAM CALLENDER."
JOSEPH STRETCH,

To Robert Hunter
Morris, *Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania,*
April 24, 1755.

In Pursuance of this Resolve, the Committee immediately furnished the Sum of *Two Hundred Pounds*, for the Purpose of Cutting the said Roads, and the Secretary wrote the following Letter to the Commissioners for Opening the Roads.

'GENTLEMEN, *Philadelphia*, 25th *April*, 1755.

THE Governor received your Letter Yesterday, at the Time Governor *Shirley* was setting out, and laid it before such of the Assembly as live in Town; and being obliged to accompany Governor *Shirley*, he commanded me to receive the Result of their Consultation and send it to you, and if favourable, to press you to proceed to clear the Roads a sufficient Breadth, which should be by you thought necessary to be opened, and to make Causeways, and lay Bridges, and to set about it with the utmost Expedition. Enclosed is a Copy of their Letter to the Governor. Let nothing, I beseech you, be omitted in your Power; get a Number of Hands immediately, and further the Work by all possible Methods.

I am ordered to tell you, that all your Expences will be paid at the next Sitting of Assembly, which begins the 12th of *May;* be not therefore any Ways concerned about this; do your Duty, and oblige the General and Quarter-master if possible; if you cannot please, after you have properly done your Part, you may then rest perfectly satisfied. Surely the Flour will be delivered in Time*, or great Blame may be laid, with Truth, at the Door of the Commissioners.

What Sir *John St. Clair* says, is so far true, that had the Army been ready now, and retarded by Delays in Matters undertaken by this Province, all the Mischiefs thence arising would have been justly chargeable on this Province; but I am mistaken if they can *within a Month from this Date get* their Artillery so far as your Road,† which, I suppose, is to cross the Road made by *Washington*, over the *Allegheny* Hills to the *Big Meadows;*—— or is it expected that a Road be opened and cleared, between *Conegocheague* and the Camp at *Wills's Creek?* I thought this had been done by Governor *Sharpe.*

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* The Flour was all delivered in Time, and long before it was wanted; it was indeed sent in so fast, that the General had not provided Stores and Shelters sufficient to secure it from the Weather, to which great Quantities lay exposed in *Maryland* after the Delivery there.

† By this Part of the Secretary's Letter [personating the Governor] and the whole Proceedings of the Committee and Assembly, who supplied the Money for Opening the Roads as soon as applied for, it is apparent, that the Governor's Charge against the Assembly, in his Message of the 24th of *September*, "that had they in Time opened the proper Roads, *&c.* the General might have been in peaceable Possession of Fort *Duquesne*," was without the least Foundation. *See Votes*, p. 461.

Be it as it will, begin with the Road that will be wanted at first, and finish it, if possible, before it will be wanted to be used, and then proceed to any other that shall be thought necessary. If the Country does not furnish Draught-Horses for the Artillery, the General will be under the Necessity of pressing Men and Horses.

I desire you will consider this Letter as if the Governor himself had wrote it, and if I have omitted any necessary Directions, do not delay on that Account, but do the duty and Service required, as if your Directions had been full and clear, and under the Governor's Hand and Seal; for whatever is not done that ought to be done, will be laid at your Door, since I engage, on the Part of the Governor and Assembly, that you shall be paid all your Expences in clearing the Roads, and making necessary Causeways and Bridges.

I am, Gentlemen, your most humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS."

It appears that the Commissioners considered this Letter (as the Secretary had desired) as coming from the Governor himself, and according wrote him the following Answer.

'SIR, *Carlisle*, 29th *April*, 1755.

IN Obedience to your Honour's Commission* to us, we have viewed and laid out the Roads leading from hence to the *Yohiogain*, and the Camp at *Wills's Creek*, and enclosed you have the Draughts thereof, and the Account of Disbursements in executing the Commission. We have carefully avoided all unnecessary Expence, and shall be pleased our Conduct meets with your Honour's Approbation. We received Mr. *Peters's* Favour, of the 25th Current, at Night, signifying your Honour's Pleasure that we proceed immediately to open the said Roads, which we shall chearfully comply with; to that End we have dispersed our Advertisements through the Counties of *Lancaster*, *York* and *Cumberland*, to encourage Labourers to come to work, and we intend to set off to begin to clear upon *Monday* first.

We have applied to Mr. *James Wright* (who happened to be here at the Time we received Mr. *Peters's*) *and John Smith* [*both Members of Assembly*] for the necessary Provisions for

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*This Commission was dated the 12th of *March*, 1755 the Workmen, and Waggons, who have agreed to supply us with whatever we shall want. We are,

Your Honour's most humble and most obedient Servants,
JAMES BURD, *for self, and* GEORGE GROGHAN *and*
ADAM HOOPS, *by their Order*,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, WILLIAM BUCHANAN."

All this While, and during the whole Intercourse of the above Letters, there was no other Estimate whatever of the Expence of clearing the Roads but the *Eight Hundred Pounds*, mentioned in the Commissioners Letter of the 16th of *April*, 'till *John Armstrong*, one of the said Commissioners, in a Letter to the Secretary, dated *Carlisle*, *May* 3, 1755, after acknowleding the Receipt of the "*Two Hundred Pounds*, sent by the Committee of the Assembly, towards the Expence of the new Road," says, "Both Roads will leave little of *Fifteen Hundred Pounds*, for it is impossible to tell what Expence unexpected Occurrences will arise to."

This being the true State of the Case, it appears clear, that the Estimate made by the Commissioners, and sent down to the Governor, and by him first recommended to the Committee, and afterwards, on the 13th of *May*, laid before the Assembly, was in Fact *an Expence of about Eight Hundred Pounds*, which the Governor, from all Appearances, must have *seen*, or at least *heard of*, however it had escaped his Memory at the Writing of his Message of the 24th of *September*, herein before mentioned.

At an ASSEMBLY *held in* PHILADELPHIA, *the Fourteenth Day of* OCTOBER, ANNO DOMINI 1755, *P. M.*

BY the Returns of the Sheriffs of Five Counties it appears that the following Gentlemen were chosen to serve in Assembly, as Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, for the Year ensuing, *viz.*

For *Philadelphia* County.
Isaac Norris,
Joseph Trotter,
James Pemberton,
Joseph Stretch,
Joseph Fox,
Joshua Morris,
Richard Pearne,
John Hughes.

For *Philadelphia* City.
Benjamin Franklin,
William Callender,

For *Bucks* County.
Mahlon Kirkbride,
Joseph Hamton,

For *Bucks* County.
Jonathan Ingham,
Griffith Owen,
Samuel Brown,
Derrick Hogeland,
William Smith,
William Hoge.

For *Chester* County.
Thomas Cummings,
George Ashbridge,
Nathaniel Pennock,
Joseph James,
Joseph Gibbons,
Nathaniel Grubb,
William Peters,
Peter Dicks.

For *Lancaster* County.
No Return made, but *James Wright, and James Webb,* appeared.

For *York* County.
John Wright,
David M'Connaughy.

For *Cumberland* County.
No Return made, nor Representatives appeared.

For *Berks* County.
Francis Parvin.

For *Northampton* County.
No Return made, but *William Edmonds,* appeared.

And a Quorum of the Representatives being met, proceeded, according to the Charter of Privileges and Laws of this Province, to the Choice of a Speaker, and ISAAC NORRIS, Esq; was unanimously chosen Speaker of this House for the ensuing Year, and accordingly placed in the Chair.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, Thomas Cummings, John Wright* and *Francis Parvin* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives have met, and proceed to the Choice of a Speaker, and desire to know when he will be pleased to receive the House, that they may present their Speaker.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Lancaster* was brought to the House, by which it appeared that *Calvin Cooper,* *James Wright*, *Peter Worral* and *James Webb* were chosen Representatives to serve in Assembly for the said County.

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Northampton* was brought to the House, whereby it appeared that *William Edmonds* was chosen Representative to serve in Assembly for the said County.—— But a Defect being observed in the said Return (for that it was signed by Five Electors only, when the Law requires Six) the Clerk was ordered to write to the said Sheriff, and direct him forthwith to make a proper and legal Return to the House of the Representative chosen for the said County.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had been at the Governor's House, and were there informed, that he was out of Town; upon which they went to the Secretary's but he not being Home, they left word that they desired he would when the Governor returned, acquaint the House therewith.

The Qualifications by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, were taken and subscribed, first by the Speaker in the Chair, and then at the Table by all the rest of the Members present, in their Order.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed, that the Governor is returned to Town:

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of Yesternight, do now wait upon him, and deliver the same.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had waited upon the Governor, and delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would be ready to receive the House To-morrow Morning, at Eleven o'Clock in the Council-Chamber.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

The Governor is now in the Council-Chamber, ready to receive the House, with their Speaker.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House waited upon the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Govenor, and presented their Speaker, and that the Governor was pleased to approve their Choice. That the Speaker had then in the Name and Behalf of the House claimed the usual Privileges, *viz.*

That the better to discharge the Business of the Public, they may at all seasonable Times have free Access to the Governor.

That their Persons may be protected for all Arrests and Insults, during the Time of Privilege accustomed.

That it would please the Governor to take no Notice of any Report that may be made, touching any Matter or Thing that may be moved or debated in the House, until the same shall have passed into a Resolve, nor give the least Credit to such Report. And lastly,

That his own (the Speaker's) unwilling Mistakes may be excused, and not imputed to the House.

All which he had requested as the just Rights and Privileges of the Freemen of *Pennsylvania*, derived and confirmed to them by the Charters and Laws of the Province. And that the Governor was pleased to say, "That the House were entituled to them by Law, but as it was usual to claim them, as such he therefore granted them."

William Hoge and *William Edmonds* took and subscribed the Qualifications by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took their Seats in the House accordingly.

Resolved, That *William Franklin* be Clerk to this House for the ensuing Year.

And he took and subscribed the usual Qualifications accordingly.

Resolved, That *Samuel Kirk* be Serjeant at Arms to this House for the Year ensuing.

Resolved, That *Edward Kelly* be Door-keeper to this House for the ensuing Year.

Ordered, That *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be, with the Speaker, a Committee of Correspondence.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter*, *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *George Ashbridge* and *Peter Worral* be a Committee of Grievances for the Year ensuing; and they have Power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton*, *Joseph Stretch*, *Joseph Fox*, *John Hughes*, *William Callender*, *Joseph Hamton* and *Thomas Cummings* be a Committee to audit and settle the Accounts of the General Loan-Office, and other public Accounts; and to sink and destroy the Bills of Credit received in Exchange, pursuant to the late Paper-money Acts; and to count all the Monies, and report, together with the said Accounts, the Sum they shall actually find in the Trustees Hands; and they have Power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Benjamin Franklin* be a Committee to revise the Minutes before they are printed.

Resolved, That *Samuel Preston Moore*, Esq; be Treasurer of this Province for the ensuing Year.

Resolved, That *Richard Patridge* and *Robert Charles*, Esquires, be Joint-Agents for this Province, at the Court of *Great-Britain*, for the Year ensuing.

Ordered, That a Copy of the foregoing Resolve, appointing the said *Richard Patridge* and *Robert Charles* Agents to this Province, be sent to them duly certified under the Great Seal.

A Letter from one of the Agents, to the Committee of Correspondence, was laid before the House and read.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Letter from *George Croghan*, to the Speaker, relating to his Accounts, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter*, *Joseph Fox*, *Richard Pearne*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Callender* be a Committee to inspect the Laws of this Province, and report which of them are expired, or near expiring, and ought to be re-enacted; with their Opinion what Amendments to them or others may be necessary.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That the Committee of Accounts do take under their Consideration the Accounts relating to the *Ohio* Road, and report thereon to the House.

An Account from *Adam Terrence*, for Cash laid out by him for the Maintenance of the *Owendaets*, on their Journey from *Philadelphia* to *Susquehanna*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Account from *Caleb Evans*, for One Hundred and Sixteen Shoes for the *Indians* Horses, lately in Town, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Resolved, That this House will, till the next Sitting of Assembly, continue to allow such reasonable Charge as the Overseers of the Poor of the City of *Philadelphia* may be put to in maintaining such of the Women, now in Town, belonging to the Army lately under the Command of General *Braddock*, who are incapable of getting their own Livehood; and that if any of the said Women shall incline to return Home to *Europe* this House will pay their Passage.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

An Account from *James Wright* for Flour purchased for the use of the Forces, under General *Braddock*, and for the Present from this Government to the *English* Officers, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *Adam Terrance's* Account, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed by this House.

They likewise reported, that they were of Opinion the Sum of *Four Pounds Sixteen Shillings* and *Six-pence* ought to be allowed by this House, in full of *Caleb Evan's* Account for Horse Shoes.——To which Reports the House agreed.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported as follows, *viz.*

WE your Committee have examined the Accounts relating to cutting the Road towards the *Ohio*, for the King's Service, and compared and adjusted the several Articles with Vouchers produced to us. There being sundry charges made by the Commissioners for their own Service, Allowance for the Loss of Horses, Tools, *&c.* we think they may be more properly considered by the House, and have therefore left them undetermined.

JAMES PEMBERTON, JOSEPH FOX,
JOSEPH STRETCH, WILLIAM CALLENDER."

Orders were drawn on the Provincial Treasurer for the Payment of *Adam Terrence's* and *Caleb Evan's* Accounts, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Resolved, That this House will this Day Adjourn to the First of *December* next.

The Speaker informed the House, "That after some Conversation with the Secretary this Morning on private Affairs, the Secretary occasionally mentioned two Letters, lately received, relating to the *Indians* on our Frontiers, and put them into the Speaker's Hands to read, which he accordingly did: That upon the Speaker's asking whether those Letters were not to be laid before the House, the Secretary said, the Governor had given him no Orders or Authority for that Purpose; and he thereupon took them back again: That the Speaker thought the said Letters contained Matters of great Importance to the Welfare of this Province, but as he could not presume to charge his Memory with the Particulars, so as to lay them before the House for the Foundation of their Conduct, he recommended the Affairs to the House for their Consideration."——And it was thereupon.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House having gone through the usual Business done at the First Sitting of Assembly, are inclined to adjourn, unless the Governor had any Thing to lay before them, particularly in regard to *Indian* Affairs, that may require their longer Stay. ——And the said Gentlemen are likewise directed, in Case the Governor should say he had not any Thing to communicate to the House, to inform him of the proposed Time of Adjournment, and desire to know if he hath any objection thereto.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that if he had had any Business to lay before the House, he should have done it before now: And that, when the Members acquainted the Governor with the proposed Time of Adjournment, he was pleased to say, It was very well.

Upon Motion made, it was

Resolved, That this House will, until next Sitting, continue the Supplies voted by the last Assembly for the Maintenance of the *Indians* about *Shamokin*, and other Parts of our Frontiers.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined *George Croghan's* Accounts, and were of Opinion, that there is a Balance of *Fifty-nine Pounds* and *Six-pence* due to him from the Province.——To which Report the House agreed; and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The House taking into Consideration the Report of the Committee of Accounts, on the *Ohio* Road Accounts, filled up the several blank Articles left by the said Committee, for the Commissioners Services, Loss of Horses, Tools, *&c.* and ordered the Clerk of this House to sign the said Accounts, and lodge them in the Hands of the Treasurer, that they may be paid off respectively as demanded.

Then the House adjourned to the First Day of *December* next.

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several

Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, the House met accordingly.

Ordered, That *William Callender* and *Joseph Gibbons* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met in Pursuance of his Writs, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them; and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

A Letter to the Speaker from the Sheriff of the County of *Northampton*, inclosing a due Return of a Representative chosen to serve in Assembly for the said County, and excusing his not having done the same before, was laid before the House and read, together with the said Return.

A Petition from *Andrew Montour*, *Indian* Interpreter, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner, since the late unfortunate Defeat at *Monongahela* (where he suffered considerable Damage) has been greatly straitened in his Circumstances, and is indebted to sundry Persons in several Sums of Money, for which his Goods are now taken in Execution, by Reason whereof his Family is greatly distressed; that the Petitioner is now employed in the Service of his Country against the common Enemy, and has left his Wife and Children in this Province; he therefore humbly prays that this House will be pleased to afford his said Family, during his Absence, such Relief, and provide for them in such Manner, as their Circumstances may require.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had waited upon the Governor, and delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had a Message now copying, in order to send down to the House, which he believed would be ready in Half an Hour, if the House would sit so long; but in case it should not be ready by that Time, he would acquaint the House therewith by the Secretary, and send down by him a Copy of the Writs, by which the House were summoned.

The House agreed to wait till they should hear from the Governor; and ordered Candles to be brought in, which was done accordingly.

Calvin Cooper, returned a Representative for the County of *Lancaster*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualifications by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House one of the Writs by which the House were summoned, with sundry Letters and Papers, which the Secretary informed the House were the Foundation of the Message intended to be sent down by the Governor this Evening.

And the said Writ, together with the said Letters and Papers, being read, were ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'HAVING received Intelligence that a Party of *French* and *Indians*, had destroyed some of the Settlements nigh the River *Susquehanna*, killed a Number of the Inhabitants, and carried others off Prisoners, and that a considerable Body of them had passed the *Allegheny Hills*, and were moving towards the settled Parts of this Province, I issued Writs for calling you together; since which I have had repeated Accounts of the Motions of the Enemy, who, I am informed, are Fifteen Hundred in Number, and are encamped on the *Susquehanna* about thirty Miles above Harris's Ferry.

'The Papers that I have ordered to be laid before you will inform you of the Cruelties their Parties have committed upon the Inhabitants of this Province on both Sides of the *Susquehanna*, and that they have penetrated as far as the *Kittochtinny* Hills, within about Eighty Miles of this City.

'This Invasion was what we had the greatest Reason to believe would be the Consequence of General *Braddock's* Defeat, and the Retreat of the Regular Troops, and had my Hands been properly strengthened, I should have put this Province into such a Posture of Defence as might have prevented the Mischiefs that have since happened.

'It seems clear from the different Accounts I have received, that the *French* have gained to their Interest the *Delaware* and *Shawnese Indians*, under the ensnaring Pretence of restoring them to their Country. Their intimate Knowledge of which will make them very dangerous Enemies to the Colonies in General, and to this in particular.

'As soon as I could inform myself of the Number of Motion of the *French* and *Indians* I signified the same to the neighboring Governments, that they might not only be upon their Guard, but prepared to afford us such Assistance as the Progress of the Enemy might make necessary; and at the same Time transmitted to his Majesty's Ministers the Intelligence I had received, and acquainted them with the defenceless State of the Province.

'The People in the Back Counties have on this important Occasion behaved themselves with uncommon Spirit and Activity; but complain much of the Want of Order and Discipline, as well as of Arms and Ammunition. As we have no Militia, it is not in my Power to form the People into such regular Bodies as the present Exigency requires, and you must be sensible that I have neither Money, Arms or Ammunition at my Disposal; all I have therefore been able to do has been to issue Commissions to such as were willing to take them, and to encourage the People to defend themselves and their Families till the Government was enabled to protect them.

'The cruel and bloody Disposition of the *Indians* is known to all, and has been unhappily felt by too many of the Inhabitants: What the Designs of the Enemy are can only be conjectured from their Motions and Numbers, from which and from the known Circumstances of this Province, there is Reason to apprehend they have something more in View then bareley cutting off and destroying some of the Frontier Settlements.

'His Majesty and the Proprietaries having committed the People of this Province to my Charge and Care, I have done and still shall very readily do, every Thing in my Power to fulfil that important Trust; and to that End, I think it my Duty to call upon you to grant such Supplies of Money as his Majesty's Service, at this important and dangerous Crisis, may require, and to prepare a Bill for establishing a regular Militia, exempting such as are conscientiously scrupulous of bearing Arms, it being impossible, without such a Law, though large Sums of Money should be raised, to prevent Confusion and Disorder, or conduct Matters with any Degree of Regularity.

'As the Enemy are now laying waste the Country, and slaughtering the Inhabitants there is no Time to be lost; I therefore think it necessary upon this Occasion to inform you, that I am ready and willing to consent to a Law for emitting any Sum in Paper-Money the present Service may require, if Funds are established for sinking the same in Five Years: But I cannot think it consistent either with the Powers of my Commission, or the Duty I owe the Crown, to pass any Bills of the same or a like Tenor of those I have hereto fore refused. And I hope you will not waste your Time in offering me any such Bills, as you must know from what has passed between me and the late Assembly, and the Information I now give you, it is not in my Power to consent to; and I earnestly recommend it to you, to afford in Time that Assistance which your bleeding Country stands so much in Need of.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, November 3, 1755.

And the said Message being again read, and considered, was was referred for further Consideration to To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the Town and County of *York* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners find Numbers in the said County willing to inlist, and bear Arms for the Defence of the Frontiers during the Continuance of the present Troubles, if they had any Assurance of Arms, Ammunition, and reasonable Pay: That three Fourth of the Petitioners have neither Arms nor Ammunition, and cannot supply themselves therewith, and are moreover without any proper Regulation for their Conduct: That there are no Forts to shelter their Wives and Families during their Absence, should they go forth against their Enemies. The Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would take the Premises into Consideration, and enact such Law or Laws as they shall judge best adapted to remedy the same.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor's Message being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *James Pemberton, William Callender, Joseph Hamton, Joseph Gibbons, Calvin Cooper, Francis Parvin* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, in relation to that Part of the Governor's Message which mentions the Disaffection of the *Indians* in Alliance with this Government.

And the other Parts of the Governor's Message was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County of *Chester* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that they have certain Intelligence that the *Indians* have already begun to commit Hostilities within this Province: That the repeated

Alarms of *Indians* advancing towards the Inhabitants, give the Petitioners the highest Apprehensions of Danger to themselves and Families: That the Petitioners are highly sensible of the Zeal and Diligence of this House for the Interest and Welfare of their Constituents, in contending for what ought in Justice to be granted: That the Petitioners however beg Leave to assure the House, that should any Consideration whatsoever, but the immediate Preservation of the Lives of the Inhabitants, influence their Proceedings in this Session of Assembly, they will by no Means answer the Expectations of their Constituents, who elected them to be the Guardians of their Lives as well as of their Fortunes: That the Eyes and Hopes of more than One Hundred Thousand *British* Subjects are, on this Occasion, intensely fixed upon this House for Assistance, which the Petitioners most humbly and earnestly beg may not be denied them.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

A Petition from *Thomas Craig* and *Hugh Wilson*, of the *Forks of Delaware*, in the County of *Northampton*, was laid before the House and read, setting forth the great Danger the Petitioners apprehend the Inhabitants of said *Forks* to be in by Reason of the late Incursions of the *Indians*, and praying that some Arms and Ammunition may be granted them for their Defence.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, relating to that Part of the Governor's Message which mentions the Disaffection of the *Indians*, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Rules usually observed by the Assemblies of this Province being read,

Resolved, That the two following Rules be added thereto, *viz.*

1. That those Members who do not appear in the House within Half an Hour after the Assembly Bell ceases to ring, shall pay *One Shilling.*

2. That every Member who shall absent himself without Leave of the House, or sending a Letter containing the Reasons of his Absence, shall forfeit his whole Wages during that Sitting. And the Sufficiency of the Reasons contained in such Letters shall be determined by an immediate Vote of the House.

All which Forfeitures shall be paid into the Charity Box, for the Use of the Provincial Hospital.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

SINCE the Issuing Writs for calling us together, the Governor is pleased to let us know, by his Message of the Third Instant, that he had repeated Accounts of the Motions of a Party of *French* and *Indians*, who had destroyed some of the Settlements nigh the River *Susquehanna*, who, he is informed, "are Fifteen Hundred in Number, and are encamped on that River, about Thirty Miles above *Harris's* Ferry" but we cannot find by the Papers and Letters the Governor has been pleased to lay before us, that Fifteen Hundred of the Enemy are encamped on *Susquehanna*, about Thirty Miles above *Harris's* Ferry, or on any Part of that River. Nevertheless, it is too evident that the Back Settlers are greatly alarmed and terrified, and that Cruelties have been committed upon the Inhabitants, principally within the late Purchase made by the Proprietaries the last Year at *Albany*, by some Parties of the *Delaware* and *Shawanese Indians*, joined perhaps (though that is not very clear) with a few of the *French Mohawks*, who several of the Accounts say, were to be followed by a large Number of *Indians* and *French* from Fort *Duquesne*, with a Design of dividing themselves into Parties to fall upon the remote Inhabitants of this Province and *Virginia*.

By these Hostilities of the *French*, and the *Indians* who have engaged to join them, the *Indians* who are inclined still to preserve their Alliances with us seem equally terrified, lest the remote Inhabitants and the *English* generally should revenge upon them the Barbarities committed by Parties of the *Delawares* and *Shawanese Indians*. Therefore, in our Opinion, it requires great Care and Judgment in conducting our *Indian* Affairs at this critical Juncture; for as the *Six Nations* are in Alliance with the Crown of *Great-Britain*, and Numbers of them joined the King's Forces under General *Johnson*, who acted with great Fidelity and Bravery: It seems absolutely necessary on our Part to request the Governor would be pleased to inform us, whether he knows of any Disgust or Injury the *Delawares* or *Shawanese* have ever received from this Province, and by what Means their Affections can be so alienated as not only to take up the Hatchet against us, in Breach of their Dependance upon the *Six Nations*, by whom they were long since subdued, but of the friendly Interviews and Treaties we have so repeatedly and very lately held with them and the *Indians* of the *Six United Nations* both before and since the Defection of part of the *Shawanese* under *P. Chatier*, to whom particularly this Government interposed their good Offices, in procuring the Liberty, and sending Home a Number of their People, as we apprehend, very much to their Satisfaction.

We likewise request the Governor would be pleased to inform us, whether he has any Knowledge of the Inclinations of the *Six Nations*, or what Part they have acted in relation to this cruel Incursion of the *Delaware* and *Shawanese* within the Limits of this Province. And that he would lay before us the *Indian* Treaty, held at *Philadelphia* in *September* last, as we are resolved to do every Thing in our Power to redress them, if they shall appear to have received any Wrong or Injury at our Hands, though nothing of that Kind hath come to our Knowledge; and if possible to regain their Affections, rather than by any Neglect or Refusal of that Justice we owe to them and all our *Indian* Allies, entail upon ourselves and our Posterity the Calamities of a cruel *Indian* War; of which we apprehend there may be too much Danger, unless the most speedy and cautious Methods are taken to prevent it."

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

A Petition from *William Moore*, and *Thirty-five* others, Inhabitants of the County of *Chester*, praying that this House would not keep up unnecessary Disputes with the Governor, nor, by Reason of their religious Scruples, longer neglect the Defence of the Province, was presented to the House and read, and *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

Sundry Letters from the Agents in *Great-Britain*, to the Committee of Correspondence, were laid before the House and read.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, together with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were severally read, and the Message is as follows. *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

' I THIS Minute received Intelligence, that the Settlements at a Place called the *Great Cove*, in the County of *Cumberland*, are destroyed, the Houses burnt, and such of the Inhabitants as could not make their Escape either slaughtered or made Prisoners. This, and the other Cruelties committed upon our Frontiers, has so alarmed the remaining Inhabitants, that they are quitting their Habitations, and crowding into the more settled Parts of the Province, which in their Turn will become the Frontier if some Stop is not speedily put to the cruel Ravages of these bloody Invaders. In this melancholy Situation of our Affairs, any Delay may be attended with the most fatal Consequences; I must therefore again most earnestly press you, upon this further Intelligence, to strengthen my Hands, and enable me speedily to draw forth the Forces of this Province against his Majesty's Enemies, and to afford the necessary and timely Assistance to the Back Inhabitants.

Philadelphia, *November* 5,
1755. Four o'Clock, *P. M.*

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The Governor's Message being again read, and considered,

Resolved, That the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* be, at this Time, granted to the King's Use; and that the said Sum be struck in Paper Bills of Credit, and sunk by a Tax of *Sixpence per* Pound, and *Ten Shillings* per Head, yearly, for Four Years, on all the Estates, Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Calvin Cooper*, and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill pursuant to the foregoing Resolve.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County and Borough of *Lancaster*, praying that this House would grant them a Supply of Arms and Ammunition, and take such other

Measures for their Safety as to the Wisdom of the House should seem proper, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the Townships of *Tinnecom, Nocamixon* and *Springfield*, in the County of *Bucks*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth the great Terrors the Petitioners are under, occasioned by the Ravages of the *Indians* on the Borders of this and the neighbouring Provinces, and praying for a Supply of Arms and Ammunition, and that some Method may be fallen upon to enable the Inhabitants to distinguish our friendly *Indians* from others.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

It being observed by the House, that all the Names, subscribed to the foregoing Petition from *Bucks* County, were in one Handwriting, and some of them on a separate Piece of Paper, pinned to the said Petition; and as the House are liable to be greatly imposed upon by admitting Petitions signed in that Manner.

Resolved, That this House will not for the future receive any Petitions but what are signed in the proper Handwriting of the Petitioners respectively.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting the same to the King's Use; and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, by a Tax of *Sixpence per* Pound, and *Ten Shillings per* Head, yearly, for four Years, on all the Estates, Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading To-Morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House being informed, that sundry Freeholders of the City of *Philadelphia* were attending without, and desired Admittance, in order to present an Address to the House, they were called in; and they accordingly presented the following Address, signed by *Twenty-three*, of the People called *Quakers*, which was read by the Clerk, and they then withdrew, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met, at *Philadelphia, Eleventh Month* 7, 1755.

The ADDRESS *of some of the People called* Quakers, *in the said Province on Behalf of themselves and others.*

THE Consideration of the Measurers which have lately been pursued, and are now proposed, having been weightily impressed on our Minds, we apprehend that we should fall short of our Duty to you and to ourselves, and to our Brethen in religious Fellow-ship, if we did not in this Manner inform you, that although we shall at all Times heartily and freely contribute, according to our Circumstances, either by the Payment of Taxes, or in such other Manner as may be judged necessary, towards the Exigencies of Government; and sincerely desire that due Care may be taken, and proper Funds provided, for raising Money to cultivate our Friendship with our *Indian* Neighbours, and to support such of our Fellow-Subjects who are or may be in Distress, and for such other like benevolent purposes: Yet as the raising Sums of Money, and putting them into the Hands of Committees, who may apply them to Purposes inconsistent with the peaceable Testimony we profess, and have borne to the World, appears to us in its Consequences to be destructive of our religious Liberties, we apprehend many among us will be under the Necessity of suffering rather than consenting thereto by the Payment of a Tax for such Purposes, and thus the Fundamental Part of our Constitution may be essentially affected, and that free Enjoyment of Liberty of Conscience, for the Sake of which our Fore fathers left their native Country, and settled this, then a Wilderness, by Degrees be violated.

We sincerely assure you we have no temporal Motives for thus addressing you, and could we have preserved Peace in our Minds, and with each other, we should have declined it, being unwilling to give you any unnecessary Trouble, and deeply sensible of your Diffculty in discharging the Trust committed to you irreproachably in these perilous Times, which hath hath engaged our fervent Desires, that the immediate Instructions of supreme Wisdom may influence your Minds, and that being preserved in a steady Attention thereto, you may be enabled to secure Peace and Tranquility to yourselves and those you represent, by pursuing Measures consistent with our peaceable Principles; and then we trust we may continue humbly to confide in the Protection of that Almighty Power, whose Providence has heretofore been as Walls and Bulwarks round about us."

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting the same to the King's

Use; and to provide a Fund for sinking the same by a Tax of *Six-pence per* Pound, and *Ten Shillings per* Head, yearly, for four Years, on all Estates, Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province, was read the second time, debated, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Sundry Letters from Persons residing on an near the Frontiers, relating to the Incursions of the *French* and *Indians*, were laid before the House and read.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the Town and County of *York*, praying for Arms and Ammunition, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County of *Bucks* was presented to the House and read, praying, that this House would pass such a Law as might enable this Province to raise Forces to join those of the neighbouring Provinces, in other in repel our Enemies on the Frontiers; and also enable the Inhabitants of this Province, to put themselves in such a military Posture of Defence, as would convince our Enemies that we are able and willing to defend our Civil and Religious Privileges.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Calvin Cooper*, *Francis Parvin* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Bill for supplying the Western and Northern *Indians*, Friends and Allies of *Great-Britain*, with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the *Indian* Trade.

The Address of sundry of the People called *Quakers* was again read, and considered.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and for granting the same to the King's Use; and to provide a Fund for sinking the same by a Tax of* Six-pence per *Pound, and* Ten Shillings per *Head, yearly, for Four Years, on all the Estates, Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province*, being transcribed, was read the third Time;

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

James Pemberton,
Joseph Trotter,
Joshua Morris,
Thomas Cummings.
William Peters,
Peter Worral,
Francis Parvin.
Dissentient.

Ordered, That *John Hughes* and *James Webb* do carry the same up to the Governor for his Concurrence.

A Bill for supplying the Western and Northern *Indians,* Friends and Allies of *Great-Britain,* with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing the Abuses in the *Indian* Trade, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to the Governor according to Order.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of *Paxton-Narrows,* in the County of *Lancaster,* was presented to the House and read, praying, that this House would either enact a Militia Law, or grant a sufficient Sum of Money to maintain such a Number of regular Troops as may be thought necessary to defend our Frontiers, and build Fortifications in proper Places; also, that *Conrad Weiser* may be sent to the *Indians* at or about *Shamokin,* in order to found their Dispositions, and engage them to come down among the Inhabitants with their Wives and Children, where they may be plentifully supplied with every Necessary, and be out of the Reach of the Intrigues of our Enemies.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The *Indians* have signified to the Governor, by Mr. *Weiser,* that they have something to say to the Governor, his wise Men and the People of this Province; and the Governor will be at the State-house at Three o'Clock this Afternoon for that Purpose. The Governor orders me to give you this Notice, that you may be present if you choose it."

Resolved, That this House will attend the Governor this Afternoon, to hear what the *Indians* propose to say.

Ordered, That *William Peters* and *Francis Parvin* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

David M'Connaughy, returned a Representative for the County of *York*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualifications by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

A Petition from a considerable Number of the Inhabitants of the Frontier Settlements, in the County of *York*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that a savage and cruel Enemy are at this Time upon our Borders, barbarously murdering our Friends and Fellow-Subjects, while the Petitioners are unable to afford them the wanted Assistance; that the Petitioners would have been in more unhappy Circumstances, were it not for the generous Supply of Arms and Ammunition sent them by this House, for which they beg Leave to return their hearty and most grateful Acknowledgments; that the said Arms and Ammunition are put into good Hands, by Means whereof those who have received them are spirited up to withstand the common Enemy. The Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would enable them yet more to shew with what Resolution they shall endeavor to defend their Lives and Properties, their King and Country.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Governor, by the Secretary, send down to the House a Message in writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'YOU have been now sitting six Days, and instead of strenghening my Hands, and providing for the Safety and Defence of the People and Province, in this Time of imminent Danger, you have sent me a Message wherein you talk of regaining the Affections of the *Indians* now employed in laying waste the Country, and butchering the Inhabitants, and of enquiring what Injustice they have received, and into the Causes of their falling from their Alliance with us, and taking Part with the *French*. Such Language at this Time, and while the Province is in its present Circumstances, seems to me very extraordinary, as no Complaint has ever to my Knowledge been made by them of any Injury done them.

I am sorry you should at this Time send me the Bill I have just now received, when I had heretofore refused my Assent to one of the same Kind, and in my Message of the Third Instant informed you, that I could not give my Consent to such a Bill.

I shall not enter into a Dispute whether the Proprietaries ought to be taxed or not.—— It is sufficient for me, that they have given me no Power in that Case.—— And I cannot think it consistent either with my Duty or Safety, in Matters of Government, to exceed the Powers of my Commission, much less to do what that Commission expressly prohibits.

Upon the repeated Accounts I have had of the miserable Situation of the Back Inhabitants, and the Disorders and Confusion among those that are assembled in their Defence, the Council have unanimously advised me to go into the Back Counties, to put Things in the best Order possible, and to afford my Countenance and Assistance to those that are willing to take up Arms in Defence of their Country. This I declined doing till I knew what you would propose upon the present Occasion; and having now received from you a Bill that you well knew I could not give my Consent to, I despair of your doing any Thing, and shall therefore immediately set off for the Back Counties; and if they have not all the Assistance their present Distresses make necessary, it will not be for want of Inclination in me but Power.

I shall take with me a Quorum of the Council, and if you shall have any Bills to propose that are consistent with the Duties of my Station, and the just Rights of Government, I shall readily give my Assent to them, whenever they are brought to me.

Philadelphia, November 8, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

And the said Message being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know his determinate Resolution, whether he will or will not pass the Bill now before him for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use; and if he does not incline to pass the said Bill, that he would be pleased to return it to the House.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, when the Members enquired whether he would or would not pass the *Sixty Thousand Pound* Bill, "That if the House would send him a Message in Writing on that Head he would return them an Answer;" and upon the Members asking the Governor, whether he would return the said Bill to the House or not, he was pleased to say, "That he should not return the said Bill to the House."

The said Members brought to the House a Copy of a Minute of Council of this Morning, relating to *Indian* Affairs, which they said was put into their Hands by the Secretary, in order to be laid before the House.

And the said Minute of Council was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Governor's Message of this Afternoon, being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Joseph Hamton*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Webb*, *David M'Connaughy* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, in Answer thereto.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day* at Three o'clock, *P. M.*

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of the Eighth Instant, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Upon Motion made,

Resolved, That this House will allow such reasonable Expences as *Conrad Weiser* may be put to, in providing the *Indians* now in Town with Necessaries.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'AFTER the *Indians* had in Public demanded the Assistance of this Government, and desired to know what we intended to do, and whether they were to depend upon us for Protection, or take Care of themselves;—— they came to me in Council, and informed me by Mr. *Weiser*, the Provincial Interpreter, that they and their Brethren living upon the *Susquehanna*, who were about Three Hundred Fighting Men, were now the only *Indians* in this Part of the Continent, besides the *Six Nations*, that remained firm to the *English* Interest; the *French* having, at a great Expence and by Variety of Artifices, gained to their Alliance not only the *Delawares* and *Shawanese*, but other very numerous Nations to the Westward, compared to whom they were but a Handful: That the *French* and those their Allies were coming down against the *English*, and had given them Notice to get out of their Way: That the Body of the *Six Nations* were employed in protecting their own Country, and assisting the *English* to the Northward, and could not therefore afford them any Help at so great a Distance; wherefore they declared, that they and their Brethren were willing to act in Conjunction with the *English* against the *French* and their Allies, but that in their present Situation and Circumstances they could not take the Weight of the War upon themselves.

What they desire from us at present is, that we would put the Hatchet into their Hands; that we would send a Number of our young Men to act in Conjunction with their warriors, and furnish the necessary Arms, Ammunition and Provisions; that we would build some strong Houses for the Protection of their old Men, Women and Children; and that they may be supplied from Time to Time with Necessaries.

They further insist upon knowing the Resolutions of this Government as to these Matters, and upon having an explicit Answer without further Delay, that they may prepare to act with us, or take the necessary Measures for their own Security They have assured me, in a very solemn and peremptory Manner, that this is the last Application they intend to make; in which if they do not succeed, they can have no longer any Dependance upon us, but must leave us as an infatuated People to the Mercy of our Enemies.

I must observe, Gentlemen, that I cannot but look upon this as one of the most important Matters that ever came under your Consideration. You know our own critical Situation, and cannot be Strangers to theirs: The Enemy is daily laying waste our Country, and it cannot be expected that these *Indians* will expose themselves for us to the Fury of Nations far more powerful than themselves, unless we vigorously support and assist them.—— *Indians* are of a martial Spirit, and, at such a Season as this, must be in Action. If therefore they find that we continue to refuse either to act in Defence of ourselves or them, they must necessarily leave us, and throw themselves for Protection into the Hands of the *French*, our busy Enemy, who will spare no Expence or Truble to gain such an Advantage, and are at this Time using every Artifice to corrupt and alienate them from our Interest.

How fatal this must prove to us, and all the *English* Colonies, you, Gentlemen, cannot be ignorant. The Effects of our past Disputes have already been too severely felt and it is to be feared, if the present Politics and pacific Measures are persisted in, the Consequences will be still more dreadful.

Let me therefore, earnestly recommend it to you, that you will enable me to put the Hatchet into their Hands, and afford them the Assistance of the Province in such a Manner as they desire.

Your vigorous and hearty Compliance may be a Means of restoring Quiet to our poor Back Settlers, who are daily calling out for that Protection from us which is justly due to them. But if, through your Refusal, these *Indians* should be obliged not only to leave us, but to act against us, all the dreadful Consequences of it must be left at your Door; for I am ready and desirous to do any Thing, consistent with my Duty to the Crown, for the Protection and Assistance as well of these our Allies, as of the Inhabitants of this Province in general.

Upon this important Affair, Gentlemen, and at the pressing Instances of these *Indians*, I have put off my Journey to the Back Settlements, although I conceive my Presence among them at this Time to be extremely necessary. Let me, therefore, recommend Dispatch to you, as these *Indians* are so pressing to be gone, in order to see after their Families and Friends, declaring, in the strongest Manner, that they have not a Moment to lose, and must take their Measures immediately.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, November 10, 1755.

The foregoing Message being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Hamton, George Ashbridge, James Webb, David M'Connaughy* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor in Answer thereto.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the *Forks of Delaware, Lower* and *Upper Smithfield*, in the County of *Northampton*, praying, that a Militia Law may be passed as soon as possible, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Bill for supplying the Western and Northern *Indians*, Friends and Allies of *Great-Britain*, with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the *Indian* Trade, was read the second time. and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House being informed that *Edward Kelly* had lately committed sundry Misdemeanours in his Office as Door-keeper to this House, he was called in, and interrogated concerning the same; and he not having any Thing to offer in his own Vindication, was directed to withdraw.

Resolved, That the said *Kelly* be dismissed the Service of this House.

A Petition from *David Edwards*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be appointed Door-keeper to this House, was presented to the House and read.

Resolved, That the said *David Edwards* be Door-keeper to this House for the Year ensuing.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the Township of *Hanover*, in *Lancaster*-County, praying for Arms and Ammunition, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of Yesternight, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to Governor.

The Treaty held with the *Indians* in *August* last was laid before the House and read.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for supplying the Western and Northern* Indians, *Friends and Allies of* Great-Britain, *with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the* Indian *Trade*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Answer to the Governor's Message of the Eighth Instant, being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE House came together at this Time with the sincerest Dispositions to avoid, if possible, all Disputes with the Governor on any Account whatever. And being deeply affected with the present distressed Circumstances of the Frontier Counties, determined to do, for the public Safety and Welfare, every Thing that could reasonably be expected from them, either as dutiful Subjects to the Crown, or Lovers of their Country.

Accordingly, on reading the Governor's Message of the Third Instant, with the Papers accompanying the same, a Bill was immediately proposed for raising a large Sum for the King's Service, and to strike the same in Paper Bills, and provide a Fund for sinking the Whole within Five Years, as recommended by the Governor.

In the mean Time, as this Colony had been founded on Maxims of Peace, and had hitherto maintained an uninterrupted Friendship with the Natives, by a strict Observation of Treaties, conferring Benefits on them from Time to Time, as well as doing them Justice on all Occasions, it could not but surprize us to hear, that our old Friends were on a sudden become our cruel Enemies. And as the Governor was pleased to tell us, "the *French* had gained the *Delawares* and *Shawanese* to their Interest, under the ensnaring Pretence of *Restoring them to* their *Country;*" it seemed natural and proper for us to enquire, on this Occasion whether the *Indians* complained of any Injury from this Province, either in regard to their Lands, or on any other Accounts; and to express our Readiness to do them Justice (in case such Complaints were well founded) before Hostilities were returned, and the Mischief grew more extensive. For our better Information in this Matter, and without intending the least Offence to the Governor, we requested he would be pleased to lay before us the last Treaty, held with them in *September.* Our Message to this Effect was sent up on the second Day after our entering on Business. But the Governor vouchsafed us no Answer till now, and seems exceedingly displeased with the Application.

From the Governor's immediate Refusal of his Assent to a Bill of so much Importance, when he had but "*just received it*" from us, and his saying, it is "of the same Kind with one he had before refused his Assent to," we apprehend his Refusal arises from his not having allowed himself Time to consider it. Indeed all Bills for raising Money for Public Use, are so far *of the same Kind;* but this differs greatly from every former Bill that has been offered him, and all the Amendments (of any Consequence) which he proposed to the Bill he last refused, are in this Bill admitted, save that for totally exempting the Proprietary Estate. And we being as desirous as the Governor to avoid any Dispute on that Head, have so framed the Bill as to submit it entirely to his Majesty's Royal Determination, whether that Estate has or has not a Right to such Exemption. There is so much Time allowed by the Bill, that the King's Pleasure may possibly be known even before the first Assessment; but it is moreover provided, that if at any Time, during the Continuance of the Act, the

Crown should think fit to declare, that the Estates of the Proprietaries in this Province ought to be exempted, in such Case the Tax, though assessed, shall not be levied, or if any Part has been levied, the same shall be refunded to the Proprietaries, and an additional Tax laid on the People to supply the Deficiency. We cannot conceive any Thing more fair and reasonable than this; or could we possibly imagine that the Governor would object to it, or what he could object to it, since the Words in his Commission, which he is pleased to suppose contain an express Prohibition of his passing such a Bill as this, do not appear to us to have any such Meaning, and we presume will not to any others who may be thought more impartial. If it be one of the "*just Rights of Government*" that the Proprietary Estate should be exempted in a Tax for the common Defence of all Estates in the Province, those *just Rights* are well understood in *England;* the Proprietaries are there upon the Spot, and so can the more easily solicit their own Cause, and make their Right of Exemption appear, if such a Right there be; and were they at as great a Distance as we are, they might nevertheless safely confide in his Majesty's known wisdom and impartial Justice, that all their just Rights would be duly preserved. The Equity of their being Taxed on this Occasion for their Estate in this Province, has appeared so plain even to their best Friends here, that they entered into a voluntary Subscription to pay for them, what they supposed the Tax might amount to, being assured, as they said, that if the Proprietaries were present, it would be *altogether* unnecessary, and that they would freely repay what should be thus advanced for them; which Supscription was put into the Governor's Hands for his Security. If the Proprietaries should chuse to shew their Good-will to the Service, this Bill, if passed, might give them a happy Opportunity of doing it, by generously soliciting the King's Appropation to the Law, and refusing to petition for the Exemption. And since this Right of Exemption contended for in their Behalf, is never like to be settled here between the Governor and Assembly, the Bill puts it in the proper Train to be finally determined, and all future Disputes about it effectually prevented.

Our Assemblies have of late had so many Supply Bills, and of such different Kinds, rejected on various Pretences; Some for not complying with obsolete occasional instructions (though other Acts exactly of the same Tenor had been past since those instructions, and received the Royal Assent;)

Some for being inconsistent with the supposed *Spirit of an Act of Parliament*, when the Act itself did not any way affect us, being made expressly for other Colonies; Some for being, as the Governor was pleased to say, "*of an extraordinary Nature*," without informing us wherein that extraordinary Nature consisted; and others for disagreeing with new discovered Meanings, and forced Constructions of a Clause in the Proprietary Commission; that we are now really at a Loss to divine what Bill can possibly pass. The Proprietary Instructions are Secrets to us; and we may spend much Time, and much of the Public Money, in preparing and framing Bills for Supply, which, after all, must, from those Instructions, prove abortive. If we are thus to be driven from Bill to Bill, without one solid Reason afforded us; and can raise no Money for the King's Service and Relief or Security of our Country, till we fortunately hit on the only Bill the Governor is allowed to pass, or till we consent to make such as the Governor or Proprietaries direct us to make, we see little Use of Assemblies in this particular; and think we might as well leave it to the Governor or Proprietaries to make for us what Supply Laws they please, and save ourselves and the Country the Expence and Trouble. All Debates and all Reasonings are vain, where Proprietary Instructions, just or unjust, right or wrong, must inviolably be observed. We have only to find out, if we can, what they are, and then submit and obey. But surely the Proprietaries Conduct, whether as Fathers of their Country, or Subjects to their King, must appear extraordinary, when it is considered that they have not only formally refused to bear any Part of our yearly heavy Expences in cultivating and maintaining Friendship with the *Indians*, though they reap such immense Advantages by that Friendship; but they now, by their Lieutenants, refuse to contribute any Part towards resisting an Invasion of the King's Colony, committed to their Care; or to submit their Claim of Exemption to the Decision of their Sovereign.

In Fine, we have the most sensible Concern for the poor distressed Inhabitants of the Frontiers. We have taken every Step in our Power, consistent with the just Rights of the Freemen of *Pennsylvania*, for their Relief, and we have Reason to believe, that in the Midst of their Distresses they themselves do not wish us to go farther. Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety. Such as were inclined to defend themselves, but unable to purchase Arms and Ammunition, have, as we are informed, been supplied with both, as far as Arms could be procured, out of Monies given by the last Assembly for the King's Use; and the large Supply of Money offered by this Bill, might enable the Governor to do every Thing else that should be judged necessary for their farthur Security, if he shall think fit to accept it. Whether he could, as he supposes, "If his Hands had been properly strenghtened, have put the Province into such a Posture of Defence, as might have prevented the present Mischiefs," seems to us uncertain; since late Experience in our neighbouring Colony of *Virginia* (which had every Advantage for the Purpose that could be desired) shows clearly, that it is next to impossible to guard effectually an extended Frontier, settled by scattered single Families at two or three Miles Distance, so as to secure them from the insidious Attacks of small Parties of skulking Murderers: But thus much is certain, that by refusing our Bills from Time to Time, by which great Sum were seasonably offered, he has rejected all the Strength that Money could afford him; and if his Hands are still weak or unable, he ought only to blame himself, or those who have tied them.

If the Governor proceeds on his Journey, and takes a Quorum of his Council with him, we hope, since he retains our Bill, that it will be seriously and duly considered by them; and that the same Regard for the Public Welfare, which induced them unanimously to advise his intended Journey, will induce them as unanimously to advise his Assent. We agree therefore to his keeping the Bill, earnestly requesting he would reconsider it attentively; and shall be ready at any Time to meet him for the Purpose of enacting it into a law."

The Answer to the Governor's Message of Yesternight, being likewise transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have considered the Governor's Message of Yesterday, relating to the Application and pressing Instances of the *Indians*, and are glad to find, that he is at length prevailed on to declare himself "ready and desirous to do any Thing, consistent with his *Duty to the* CROWN, for the Protection and assistance, as well of our Allies, as of the Inhabitants of this Province in general." We never have, and we hope never shall, desire him to do any Thing inconsistent with that

Duty. He has it now in his Power to do what he may think the Exigence requires, for the Service of the Crown, the Protection of our Allies, and of the Inhabitants of the Province. As Captain General he has, by the Royal Charter, full Authority to raise Men; and the Bill now in his Hands, granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, will enable him to pay the Expences. We grant the Money chearfully, though the Tax to sink it will be a heavy one; and we hope the Bill will receive his Assent immediately."

And the foregoing Messages being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the Bill for supplying the Western and Northern *Indians*, Friends and Allies of *Great-Britain*, with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the *Indian* Trade, and acquaint the Governor, that the House desire he would be pleased to give his Assent to the said Bill.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Messages of the House, and the Bill relating to the *Indian* Trade, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should take the said bill into Consideration, and give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The following Representation, signed by *William Plumsted*, Mayor of the City of *Philadelphia*, and *One Hundred* and *Thirty-three* others, was presented to the House and read, *viz.*

A REPRESENTATION to the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the Province of* PENNSYLVANIA, *by several of the principal Inhabitants of the City of* PHILADELPHIA, *in said Province.*

GENTLEMEN,

AT a Time when a bold and barbarous Enemy has advanced within about One Hundred Miles of this Metropolis, carrying Murder and Desolation along with them; and when we see our Country already stained with Blood of many of its Inhabitants and upwards of a Thousand Families who very lately enjoyed Peace and Comfort in their own Habitations, now dispersed over the Province, many of them in the most miserable and starving Condition, exposed to all the Hardships and Severity of the Season: We say, in such a Situation, we should think ourselves greatly wanting in Regard for our personal Safety, as well as in Compassion for our bleeding and suffering Fellow-Subjects, if we did not thus publicly join our Names to the Number of those who are requesting you to pass a Law, in order to put the Province in a Posture of Defence, and put a Stop to those cruel and savage Outrages, which must otherwise soon prove our Ruin.

We hope we shall always be enabled to preserve that Respect to you, which we would willingly pay to those who are the faithful Representatives of the Freemen of this Province. But, on the present Occasion, you will forgive us, Gentlemen, if we assume Characters something higher than that of humble Suitors, *praying* for the Defence of our Lives and Properties, as a Matter of Grace and Favour on your Side: You will permit us to make a positive and immediate *Demand* of it, as a Matter of perfect unalienable Right on our own Parts, both by the Laws of God and Man; and to this we are induced by the following Considerations.

1. The Approach of Winter brings the dreadful Prospect of the continual Increase of the Inroads of those preying Savages upon our Inhabitants, unless a proper Force is immediately provided to protect them. 2. The proper and *natural Force* of every Country is its Militia, without which we know of no Government that ever could subsist itself; for it is highly unjust to think that the Burden of Defence should fall upon Individuals, when the Design of Government is, to obtain general Security by a general Union of the Force of Individuals. 3. Consequently we conceive it a Subversion of the very End of Government, to deny that *legal* Protection to the Governed, for obtaining of which, Government was originally instituted. 4. In our own particular Case, although Men could be found willing to risk their Lives for the public Safety, and could be subjected to necessary Order and Discipline, without the Aid or Encouragement of a Law (which we cannot conceive possible) yet it would neither be adviseable for the Sake of such Men themselves, nor yet for the Sake of *Public Liberty*, to keep up an armed Force in the Country, without the Sanction and Authority of Law, especially as it is so much in your Power to give such a Sanction and Authority. 5. Unless the Defence of this Province, and of our *Indian* Allies is made the Act of the whole Legislature, and vigorously gone into, the *Indians* who

are now in Town, have publicly declared for themselves, and for their Friends yet in our Interest, that they can no longer repose any Faith in us; but must shift for their own Safety, and leave us to ourselves, as a People void of Spirit or Conduct. 6. We are of Opinion that no Sums of Money, however great. will answer the Purposes of Defence, without such a Law as we desire. We cannot, therefore, think that it shews a proper Concern for the Lives of the People of this Province, to propose Sums of Money in the Room of such a necessary Law; and to propose raising these Sums too in a Manner that must occasion Disputes and Delays, when there are so many unexceptionable Ways and Means agreeable, to which the People in general are very ready to pay any reasonable Proportion of their Property for the Preservation of the Remainder.

Upon the Whole, Gentlemen, we must be permitted to repeat our Demand, that you will immediately frame and offer a Law for the Defence of the Province, in such a Manner as the present Exigency requires. The Time does not permit many Hands to be put to this Representation. But if Numbers are necessary, we trust we shall neither want a sufficient Number of Hands nor Hearts, to support and second us, till we finally obtain such a reasonable Demand. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Petition from *William Moore*, and others, of *Chester* County, the Address from *Anthony Morris*, and others, of the People called *Quakers*, and the Representation from *William Plumsted*, and others, of the City of *Philadelphia*, were again read, and considered.

And the said Papers appearing to the House to contain sundry Matters of extraordinary Nature, they were referred to *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Joseph Hamton*, *Peter Dicks*, *Calvin Cooper*, *David M'Connaughy* and *William Edmonds*, with Orders for them to take the same into Consideration, and report their Opinion what it may be fit for the House to do therein.

An Account from *Edward Kelly*, for his Services as Doorkeeper to this House, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter* and *David M'Connaughy* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know what Progress he has made in the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen report, that they had waited on the Governor, and delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had read the Bill relating to the *Indian* Trade twice, and had referred it to his Council for their consideration.

A Committee of Accounts reported on *Edward Kelly's* Account, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed, amounting to *Two Pounds Eighteen Shillings* and *Eight-pence.* To which Report the House agreed.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition from *William Moore*, and others, of Chester County, the Address from *Anthony Morris*, and others, of the People called *Quakers*, and the Representation from *William Plumsted*, and others, of the City of *Philadelphia*, made a Report thereon in Writing, which was read, and considered; but some Objection being made thereto, the same was re-committed to the Committee who brought it in, for Amendment

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Cumberland* was brought to the House, by which it appeared, that *Joseph Armstrong* and *John Smith* were chosen Representatives to serve in Assembly for the said County.

And the said *Joseph Armstrong* appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualification appointed by Law to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *Joseph Armstrong* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House have waited several Days the Result of the Governor's Deliberations on the Bills now lying before him, and request he would be pleased to acquaint them when they may expect to receive his final Answer.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had given the Bill relating to the *Indian* Trade to his Clerk to transcribe, and the House should soon know his Result thereupon; and that as to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, he was then re-considering it, according to the Request of the House, and when he came to any Resolution upon the said Bill, the House might expect his final Answer; but he did not know when that would be.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition from *William Moore*, and others, of *Chester* County, the Address from *Anthony Morris*, and others, of the People called *Quakers*, and the Representation from *William Plumsted*, and others, of the City of *Philadelphia*, being altered by the said Committee, was read, and considered; and after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

The the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, according to their Adjournment.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Cumberland*, praying that a Line of Forts may be erected from *Potowmack* to *Susquehanna*, and properly garrisoned, for the Preservation of the Inhabitants of the said County, from the Incursions of the *French* and their *Indians*, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Ordered, That *Joshua Morris* and *William Peters* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know if he has yet come to any Result upon the two Bills now before him.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had waited on the Governor, and delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he should send a Message in Writing to the House this Evening relating to one of the Bills now before him, and that he had not as yet come to any Resolution upon the other Bill.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for striking the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and for granting the same to the King's Use; and to provide a Fund for sinking the same by a Tax of *Six-pence per* Pound, and *Ten Shillings per* Head, yearly, for four Years, on all the Estates Real and Personal, and Taxables within this Province, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto, and a Message in Writing, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE again taken into Consideration your Bill for striking *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, and sinking it by a Tax; and though I cannot recede from my former Opinion, that I am restrained by my Commission from passing any Law for taxing the Proprietary Estate, yet I agree with you, that the Dispute between us, whether the Proprietary Estate ought to be taxed by Act of the Legislature here, and whether I have a Power by my Commission to pass any Act for that Purpose, must in the End be determined by his Majesty.

'But as I conceive the Method you propose by a Clause in your Bill of leaving that Matter to the Royal Determination is unprecedented, and that His Majesty cannot properly give his Assent to some Parts of an Act, and reject others, but will, agreeable to the usual Forms in such Cases, approve or disapprove of the Whole: I have therefore returned, and am ready to pass, your Bill, with some Amendments, the most material of which are the Striking out that Clause, and those Parts of the Bill which subject the Proprietary Estate to Taxation; and in Lieu thereof, I propose that you shall prepare another Bill, whereby the Proprietary Estate shall be taxed in Proportion to the other Estates in the Province, and for the same Purposes; not by Assessors chosen by the People, but by Commissioners to be mutually chosen by you and me, and named in the Bill, with a suspending Clause, that the same shall not take Effect, or be in Force, till it has received His Majesty's Royal Approbation.

This Mode of doing it will, in my Opinion, as effectually answer the End you propose of laying this Affair before his Majesty for his Determination, and I think more properly and methodically, and, in the mean Time, without waiting for that Determination, Money will be raised for supplying the pressing Exigencies of the Province.

I must confess that nothing but the implicit Confidence I have in His Majesty's Goodness and Justice, that he will disapprove of it, if it is wrong, and the most sincere and ardent Desire I have of doing every Thing in my Power for the Good and Security of the People committed to my Care, could induce me to pass a Law in any Shape for the Taxing the Proprietaries Estate. And if you are equally sincere, and equally affected with the Distresses and Miseries of your bleeding Country, you can have no Objection to this Method of affording them immediate Succour and Relief.

Philadelphia, November 17, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use being again read, and considered,

Resolved, That this House will adhere to the said Bill, without admitting any of the Governor's proposed Amend ments.

Ordered, That *John Hughes, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, George Ashbridge, Calvin Cooper, David M'Connaughy, Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of this Afternoon.

Resolved, N. C. D. That if the Governor, after receiving the Answer of this House to his last Message, should persist in refusing his Assent to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, which is so just and equitable in its Nature, and so absolutely necessary at this Time to the Welfare of the *British* Interest in *America*, this House will respectfully remonstrate to our Sovereign, and humbly beseech that he would be graciously pleased to cause our present Governor to be removed from this Province, or take such other Measures as may prevent the fatal Consequences that are likely to ensue from his Conduct.

The House being informed, that at the Time of the Treaty held with the *Indians* at *Carlisle* in the Year 1753, after the Business of the Province was ended, a Chief of the *Shawanese* complained to some of the Commissioners, that Satisfaction had not been made to them by the Proprietaries for a large Tract of Land, Part of which was surveyed into the Manor of *Conedoguinet;* and that the Secretary then promised the said Chief that Application should be immediately made to the Proprietaries, in order to obtain the Satisfaction he desired; but which there was some Reason to believe, either through the Neglect of the Secretary, or Refusal of the Proprietaries, was never performed.

Ordered, That the same Committee who are appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor upon the *Sixty Thousand Pound* Bill, do likewise prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, relating to the said Application of the *Shawanese* Chief for Satisfaction for the Lands about *Conedoguinet*.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from *John Harris*, of *Paxton*, for the Maintenance of *Indians* at his House;

Also an Account from *George Honey* of *Philadelphia* for *Indians* Expences at his House, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with two Letters therein referred to, which were read, and the Message follows in these Words, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'THE Secretary will lay before you the Intelligence I have received, that the *Indians* have gallen upon the Inhabitants at *Tulpehocken*, many of whom they have destroyed.

By the Bill I have amended and returned to you, no Money can be issued till *January* next, before which the greatest Part of this Province may be laid waste, and the People destroyed, or drove from their Habitations: I think it therefore my Duty, upon the present Exigency of Affairs, to call upon you to grant an immediate Supply of Money, that I may be thereby enabled to afford the necessary and timely Assistance to the distressed Inhabitants in the Back Counties, and to secure the Province in general.

Should you enable me to raise Men upon the present Occasion, I must recommend and press it upon you, to pass a Law for the better Government of such Forces at the Time when they are not joined by any of His Majesty's regular Troops; for which you cannot have a better Standard than the Act of Parliament for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, which is in some Things already extended to this Province.

Without a Law of this Kind, it will be impossible to keep up or govern any Troops that may be raised; and as such a Law is found absolutely necessary in *England*, I hope you will think it equally so here, and immediately set about preparing one for this Province.

Philadelphia, November 18, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Committee appointed to prepare Draughts of two Messages to the Governor, reported the same to the House, and they being read, and considered, were agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that they may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The two Messages to the Governor being transcribed, were again read, and are as follow, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE are glad to find, that the Governor's chief remaining Objections to the Bill are only, that the *Method* it proposes in a particular Clause, of leaving our Dispute to the Royal Determination, is *unprecedented*, and that "His Majesty cannot properly assent to some Parts of an Act, and reject others." On which we beg Leave to say, that we think the Bill is not liable to either of these Objections. Conditional or alternative Clauses in Laws are far from being unprecedented, and the Clause objected to is no other: Nor is there any Necessity in the Method proposed, that the Crown should give its Assent to some Parts of the Act, and reject others. The Act will be complete in itself, and to be carried into Execution either Way, whether His Majesty shall think fit to determine in Favour of the Proprietary Exemption or not. The Royal Approbation of the Law is *one distinct Act* of the Crown; the Declaration of the Royal Pleasure, that the Proprietaries have a Right to be exempted from Taxes (if such a Declaration is ever made) is another *distinct Act*, that may be done at any other Time, or at any Time during the Continuance of the Law; which second distinct Act of the Crown, to be done in Pursuance of the Law, is, by the Law, to be attended with certain Advantageous Consequences to the Proprietaries, such as a Forebearing to levy their Tax, or a Refunding it if levied. This very Refunding the Tax, if levied, is to be done, not because a Part of the Law is rejected by the Crown (for that is not the Case) but it is to be done in *Execution* of the Law, and by Virtue of the Law itself. Were we to go into the other Method proposed instead of this, and pass two Bills at the same Time, one declaring positively that the Proprietary Estate shall not be taxed, (which the present Bill declares, as it now comes down amended by the Governor) and another expressly to tax that Estate, we think we should be justly chargeable with doing what is not only *unprecedented* but absurd; and that the diametrical Contradiction of two Laws passed at the same Time, and as it were with the same Breath, would, so far as they relate to the same Point, infalliby destroy each other, and the End aimed at by the Governor, *to wit*, Exempting the Proprietaries from Taxation, be thereby infalliby secured.

As to the Governor's Proposal of a particular Manner of chusing Commissioners to assess the Proprietary Estate, we conceive there is not the least Necessity of deviating from the common Method on this Occasion. The Assessors, yearly chosen throughout the Province, have established Characters for Probity and Discretion, which gives the People that Confidence in them that occasions their Choice. They are moreover under Oaths or solemn Affirmations to do impartial Justice, "according to the best of their Skill and Abilities, neither sparing any Person for Favour or Affection, nor grieving any for Hatred or Ill-will;" and though it is possible that in the many private Estates they have to assess, some small Inequalities may at Times escape their Observation, yet we think in assessing the Proprietary Estate they would be extremely careful to avoid giving any just Grounds of Complaint, and make their Uprightness in that Transaction a Point of Honour as well as Conscience; in which they would be strengthened by this Consideration, that an iniquitous unjust Assessment of that Estate. would give the best Grounds to the Proprietaries whereon to found their Application to the Crown for the Exemption claimed; and as that Application may by the Bill be made, and the Right of Exemption declared by the Crown at any Time within the four Years Continuance of the Act, the Assessors would, by one Act of Injustice, incur the Danger of losing all their Trouble, in Assessing and Collecting that Tax perhaps for several Years, and losing the whole Money raised by it to the Public, the Law obliging a Restitution to be made to the Proprietaries, whenever the Crown shall think fit to make such Declaration. So that not only from Conscience and Honour, but from a Regard to the Public Interest, the Assessors will be induced to do Justice of that Estate, and thereby prevent all Cause of Complaining.

But to satisfy the Governor farther, that not only the Taxing of the Proprietary Estates, but the Assessing them by the common Assessors, is agreeable to the Practice at Home in taxing the Lords of Parliament, we beg Leave to refer him to the Votes of the House of Commons, an Extract of which we herewith send him, where the Peers in 1692 proposed a like Amendment to a Money Bill, *viz.* to appoint separate Assessors for the Lords to be nominated in the Bill; but it appears, that on the Commons refusing it, their Lordships presently droped the Proposal, and as far as we know have never since revived it.

It is, may it please the Governor, one of the most valuable Rights of *British* Subjects, to have their Bills granting Money to the Crown, accepted without Amendments; a Right that cannot be given up, without destroying the Constitution, and incurring greater and more lasting Mischiefs than the Grant of Money can prevent. The *present Assembly*, however, being a new Body, thought themselves at Liberty to consider the Twenty Amendments proposed by the Governor to the Bill of the *last Assembly* for granting *Fifty Thousand Pounds*, and without seeing the Necessity or Use of many of those Amendments, but merely as they wished and hoped thereby to avoid all Dispute, admitted *every one of them* that was of any Consequence into the present Bill; except that of exempting the Proprietary Estate, and that was so modified, as they imagined no farther Objection could remain.—— We find, however, in this Instance, how little is to be gained by such Compliance, and how endless it is to admit any Change in such Bills; for now the Governor proposes to amend his own Amendments, adds to his own Additions, and alters his own Alterations; so that, though we should accede to these, we are not sure of being ever the nearer to a Conclusion. In Fine, as it is a Money Bill, as the whole Sum is granted to the Crown, and to be paid by a Tax on the Subjects in this Province, we cannot receive any Amendment to it. And as the Passing the proposed separate Bill is equally inconsistent with the Governor's Construction of the Prohibitory Clause in his Commission, which he seems now to have got over, and he only mentions this Mode, as in his Opinion it will "bring the Affair before his Majesty *more properly and methodically*"; we hope he will not, for the Sake of a mere Opinion of more Propriety or better Method in a particular Clause, any longer refuse a Bill of so great Importance at this Juncture to his Majesty's Service, the Security of the Proprietary Estate, now going daily to Ruin, and the Relief of the poor distressed Inhabitants of the Province. The same "implicit Confidence in His Majesty's Goodness" that "induces him to pass a Bill in any Shape for taxing the Proprietary Estate," may encourage him to hope, that any little Impropriety (if such there should be) in the *Manner* of laying the Affair before his Majesty, will be graciously passed over. Though we flatter ourselves, that the Governor will, on farther Consideration, be persuaded with us, that the Manner provided in this Bill is on many Accounts the most proper, and that the Money will be raised for the present Use with the same Readiness and Dispatch.

Whether we are "equally sincere and equally affected with the Miseries and Distresses of our bleeding Country" with the Governor, must be left to others to judge. As we are most of us natives of the Country, and all of us have our Estates and other more valuable Connections in it, and the Governor is a stranger among us, it should seem, we think, at least probable, that we may be even *more* deeply affected with its Distresses than he is; but the many Bills our Assemblies have proposed in vain for its Relief, and our earnest Endeavours to give such great Sums to that End, which the Governor has so long refused, will, we think, put that Point beyond Dispute.

Upon the Whole, the House adheres to the Bill; as being in their Judgment a reasonable one; and what they cannot deviate from consistent with the Rights of the People; and since at such a Time as this, Disputes and Contentions between the different Parts of the Government are extremely prejudicial both to the King's Service and the Welfare of the Country, we entreat they may henceforth be laid aside, and that the Governor, by passing this just and equitable Bill, will lay the Foundation of such an Agreement as may conduce to the general Benefit of all concerned, and prevent the Necessity we shall otherwise be under of making an immediate Application and Complaint against him to our Sovereign."

EXTRACTS *from the Journals of the* HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Vol.* X. *Page* 780, &c.

Martis, 17° *Die Januarii.*

QUARTO GULIELMI & MARIAE.

A Message from the Lords, by Sir *Miles Cooke* and Sir *Robert Legard;*

Mr. SPEAKER,

THE Lords have agreed to the Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting to their Majesties an Aid of* Four Shillings *in the* Pound, *for One Year, for carrying on a vigorous War against* France, with an Amendment: To which they desire the Concurrence of this House.

And then the Messengers withdrew.

And the said Amendment being read, is as following, *viz.*

"Provided nevertheless, that, all and every the Peers who are to be rated, by Virtue of this Act, for their Offices, or personal Estates, shall be rated by *Thomas* Earl of *Pembroke*, Lord Privy-Seal, *George* Marquis of *Halifax*, *William* Earl of *Devon*, Lord Steward of the Household, *Charles* Earl of *Shrewsbury*, *Theophilus* Earl of *Huntingdon*, *William* Earl of *Bedford*, *John* Earl of *Bridgewater*, *George* Earl of *North-*

ampton, *John* Earl of *Clare*, *Charles* Earl of *Manchester*, *John* Earl of *Mulgrave*, *Thomas* Earl of *Rivers*, *Thomas* Earl of *Stamford*, *Philip* Earl of *Chesterfield*, *Thomas* Earl of *Thanet*, *Robert* Earl of *Sunderland*, *Charles* Earl of *Macclesfield*, *Daniel* Earl of *Nottingham*, *Laurence* Earl of *Rochester*, *Thomas* Earl of *Fauconberg*, *Francis* Viscount *Newport*, *Henry* Viscount *Longueville*, *Henry* Lord Bishop of *London*, *Thomas* Lord Bishop of *Lincoln*, *Sidney* Lord *Godolphin*, *John* Lord *Ashburnham*, or any five of them, and not otherwise; and shall not be subjected to the Imprisonment of his or their Persons; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding. ——Provided also, and it is hereby declared, that the several Rates and Taxes to which the Lords and Peers of this Realm shall be liable, by Virtue of this Act, shall be received by a Collector to be nominated by the Peers: Which said Collector shall cause the same to be paid into his Majesty's Receipt of Exchequer, at *Westminister*, upon or before the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, 1693."

And the Question being put, that the House do agree with the Lords in the said Amendment? *It passed in the Negative.*

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare Reasons, to be offered on a Conference with the Lords, for disagreeing with their Lordships in the said Amendment:

And that the said Committee do immediately withdraw, and prepare the same.

And it is referred to Sir *Edward Seymour*, Mr. *Sollicitor General*, Mr. *Attorney General*, Mr. *Gwynn*, Mr. *Montague*, Sir *John Guise*, Mr. *Finch*, Sir *Jo. Williamson*, Mr. *Harley*, Mr. *Hampden*, Sir *Jo. Lowther*, Sir *Ro. Rich*, Colonel *Titus*, Mr. Vice Chamberlain, Colonel *Churchill*, Sir *Richard Temple*, Mr. *Palmes*, Sir *Thomas Clarges*, Sir *Christopher Musgrove*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Boyle*, Mr. *Herbert*, Lord *Faulkland*, to prepare Reasons to be offered at the said Conference.

And they withdrew accordingly.

And being returned: Sir *Thomas Clarges* reported from the said Committee, that they had prepared Reasons to be offered at the said Conference, which they had directed him to report to the House: And which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered in a the Clerk's Table; where the same were read, and are as followeth, *viz.*

"That the Right of granting Supplies to the Crown is in the Commons alone, as an essential Part of their Constitution: And the Limitation of all such Grants as to the Matter, Manner, Measure and Time, is only in them: Which is so well known to be fundamentally settled in them, that, to give

Reasons for it, has been esteemed by our Ancestors, to be a Weakening of that Right. And the Clause sent down by your Lordships to be added to this Bill, is a manifest Violation thereof."

And an Amendment being proposed ot leave out "*Violation*," and insert, instead thereof, "*Invasion*," the same was, upon the Question put thereupon, agreed unto by the House.

And then the said Reasons so amended were, upon the Question put thereupon, agreed unto the House.

Resolved, That a Conference be desired with the Lords, upon the Subject Matter of the said Amendments.

Ordered, That Sir *Thomas Clarges* do go to the Lords, and desire the said Conference.

Mercurii, 18° *Die Januarii.*
QUARTO GULIELMI & MARIAE.

Sir *Thomas Clarges* reported, that he having been at the Lords, to desire a Conference with their Lordships, upon the Subject Matter of the Amendments by them send down to the Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting to their Majesties an Aid of* Four Shillings *in the* Pound *for One Year, for carrying on a vigorous War against* France; the Lords do agree to a Conference this Afternoon at Four o'Clock, in the Painted Chamber.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to prepare Reasons for the Conference with the Lords, do manage the said Conference.

And the Managers went to the Conference:

And being returned, Sir *Thomas Clarges* reported, that they had attended the Conference; and had given their Reasons for disagreeing with the Lords in the Amendment made by the Lords to the Bill of Aid; and left the Bill and Amendments with their Lordships.

Veneris 20° *Die Jamuarii.*
QUARTO GULIELMI & MARIAE.

A Message from the Lords, by Sir *John Hoskins* and Sir *Robert Legard;*

Mr. SPEAKER,

"The Lords desire a present Conference with this House, in the Painted Chamber, upon the Subject Matter of the last Conference."

And then the Messengers withdrew.

Resolved, That this House doth agree to a present Conference with the Lords, as their Lordships do desire.

And the Messengers were called in again, and acquainted therewith.

Ordered, That the Members that managed the last Conference do manage this Conference.

And the Managers went to the Conference.

And being returned, Mr. Attorney-General reported from the said Conference, that the Managers had attended the same; and that the Lord Privy-Seal managed the Conference on the Behalf of the Lords, and that he acquainted them, that their Lordships did not insist upon their Provisoes."

Another Message to the GOVERNOR from the ASSEMBLY.

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE apprehend that our Message of the Fifth Instant, requesting to be informed by what Means the *Delawares* and *Shawanese* had been so alienated in their Affections from this Province, was too slightly answered by the Governor; and we now hope it will not be taken amiss if we enquire more particularly, Whether the Chiefs of the *Shawanese* did not, in 1753, complain to this Government, that Satisfaction had not been made to them by the Proprietaries for a large Tract of Land, Part of which was surveyed into the Proprietary Manor, on *Conedoguinet;* and whether they were not then promised, that Application should be immediately made to the Proprietaries in their Behalf to obtain the Satisfaction they desired? We hope, if so, that the Application has been accordingly made, and the Satisfaction obtained and given. But we desire, if the Governor pleases, to be informed of the Particulars."

And the foregoing Messages being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and acquaint him, that the House desire he would be pleased to let them know his Result upon the said Bill as soon as possible; and further, that they enquire if the Governor has yet come to any Result upon the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade.

The House being informed, that *Adam Hoops* and *John Potter*, of the County of Cumberland, were attending, they were called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to them, and acquainted the House with sundry Particulars relating to the Ravages of the *Indians* in the said County, they withdrew.

The Governor's Message of this Morning was again read, and considered, and after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the two Messages of the House, and the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, reported, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had been much hurried of late, which had prevented his coming to any Conclusion upon the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade; however, if the House sat any Time, he believed he should acquaint them with his Determination thereupon.

An Account from *Henry Kepple*, amounting to *Five Pounds Fourteen Shillings* and *Six-pence* for Goods furnished *Scarroyady's* Son, *per* Order of *Conrad Weiser*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Account from *David Magaw*, and another from *James Rankin*, for Service done on the *Ohio* Road, were also laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

By the Leave of the House, *Benjamin Franklin*, a Member of this House, brought in a Bill, entituled, *An Act for the better ordering and regulating the Military Force of this Province*, which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Governor's Message of Yesterday was again read, and considered; and after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Webb*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Message to the Governor, reported the same to the House which was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the said Message being accordingly transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

OUR Treasury is quite exhausted by the heavy Expences lately incurred, and we know of no Way of raising Money so expeditious as that proposed by the Bill now before the Governor. It is true, the Money intended to be struck, may not be current before the Thirty-first of *December;* but as that is not more than six Weeks, there is no Doubt but that Labour, Service, and any Thing else that Money can purchase among us, may be had on Credit for so short a Time, if the Bill passes; and in Consideration of the Necessity of "affording timely Assistance to the distressed Inhabitants in the Back Counties," we sincerely hope, and once more earnestly entreat, that the Governor will no longer refuse or delay his Assent to it.

The other Part of the Governor's Message we have now under our serious Consideration, and as soon as we come to any Resolution thereon, shall immediately communicate the same to the Governor."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor and deliver the same.

Resolved, That the Flour and Cattle, now in *Cumberland* County, belonging to the Public, be appropriated for the Use and Relief of those Inhabitants who are driven from their Habitations by the Enemy; and that *Joseph Armstrong* and *John Smith*, of the said County, have Power to distribute the same as they shall judge most proper.

Resolved, That *Francis Parvin* and *Conrad Weiser*, Esquires, of the County of *Berks*, have Power to furnish those Inhabitants of said County who are driven from their Habitations by the Enemy, with such necessary Provisions for their Subsistence, as they, the said *Parvin* and *Weiser*, shall think proper; and this House will allow such reasonable Charges as shall attend the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Sundry Letters and Papers from the Agents in *Great-Britain*, to the Committee of Correspondence, were laid before the House and read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Upon Motion made,

Resolved, That the Bill for the better ordering and regulating the Military Force of this Province be read the second time in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for the better ordering and regulating the Military Force of this Province was again read, and considered; and after considerable Time spent therein, the same was committed to *John Hughes*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Griffith Owen*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds*, for alteration and Amendment.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for the better ordering and regulating the Military Force of this Province, being amended by the Committee to whom it was referred, and an Alteration made in the Title, was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

An Account from *John Potter*, Sheriff of the County of *Cumberland*, for his Trouble and Expences in apprehending three Men suspected of carrying on a Correspondence with the *French*, and for carrying the said Men up to General Braddock, and from thence back to *Carlisle* Goal, with the Cost of a Guard to attend them, by the Governor's Order, amounting to *Twenty-two Pounds Seventeen Shillings* and *Sixpence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province*, being transcribed, was read the third time;

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

James Pemberton, *Joshua Morris*,
Joseph Trotter, *Peter Worral*, } Dissentientes.

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* and *Joseph Armstrong* do carry up the said Bill to the Governor for his Concurrence; and acquaint him that the House desire to know if he has come to any Result upon the Bills already before him.

The House being informed, that *Patrick Burns* and *George Hutchinson*, two Persons who were lately taken by the *Indians*, and made their Escape, were now in Town, and in distressed Circumstances;

Resolved, That the Sum of *Ten Pounds* be given to each of the said Persons, to furnish them with Necessaries, and enable them to return to *Cumberland* County, the Place of their Residence.

And Orders were accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Militia Bill, and the Message of the House, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had not come to any Result upon the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade; and as to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, the House should hear from him concerning it To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary sent down to the House a Message in Writing, relating to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I AM no less astonished than grieved to find, by your Message of the Eighteenth Instant, that although I have even ventured to exceed what I judge to be the Powers of My Commission, in order, if possible, to accommodate our unhappy Differences, and afford the necessary Succour to our bleeding Country, yet still you adhere to your Bill and refuse to agree to the reasonable Proposal I made of submitting to his Majesty the present Dispute between us, relating to the Proprietary Tax. My Astonishment is still increased to find, that your best Argument for such an obstinate Refusal, is founded on a new and lofty Claim of Privilege, never heard of in this Province, till towards the Close of Mr. *Hamilton's* Administration, and the Beginning of the late *French* Encroachments upon this Province. At that time, the Assembly being pressed on the Subject of Defence, first introduced, and have since occasionally continued this Claim of having their Money Bills passed as tendered, without any Amendments. And this appears to be done with a double view, *to wit*, either wholly to avoid giving Money for Warlike Purposes, or by Means of the Country's Distress, to arrogate Powers which Assemblies here never were, and, from the Nature of our Constitutions, never ought to be in Possession of.

In my Message of the Twenty-fourth of *September*, I insisted that this Claim was neither warranted by Charter, nor yet by Usage; and it appears from the Minutes of Council (some Extracts of which I have sent you) that the Governor's Right of Amending Money Bills was never questioned by your Predecessors in Assembly; and yet, Gentlemen, they were Men whose Probity and Fortune were at least equal to yours, and many of them were singularly remarkable for their superior Knowledge of the Constitution of their Country, as well as an inviolable Attachment to its true Interests.

I have given this Matter the Precedence, though it is in the last Part of your Message, that it may appear on how slight a Claim you have founded your Refusal to pass a Bill so very important at this Juncture. Your other Arguments relate chiefly to the Form of the proposed Amendments, to which I shall reply but briefly, as you seem determined against all Amendments that come from me, however reasonable and necessary they may otherwise be.

You say, *There is no Necessity in the Method proposed, that the Crown should assent to some Part of the Act, and reject others.* It is not my Business to determine what the Crown may account necessary in any of its Actions; but this I know, that it is the established Mode either to approve or reject the Whole of any Law: And I presume every Legislative Body in these Colonies expect to have their Acts wholly rejected or wholly approved. You ought, therefore, previous to your risking the Rejection of so important an Act, on account of the Proprietary Exemption, to shew more than a bare Probability, that the Crown will adopt this unprecedented Method, by which a whole Law may be first approved, then a Part of it suspended from taking Effect, and yet the Whole is to remain all the while complete, and in Force. And all this, you say, by a very nice Distinction, is to be done by Means of some wonderous *Virtue of the Law itself, and in Execution of the Law, and yet that it is to cost two distinct Acts of the Crown to do it.*

But was I to enquire into the Reasons of this indirect and perplexed Method, scarce any other, it should seem to me, can be assigned, but that it is your sovereign Pleasure to have it so, unless you are diffident of the Justice of your Cause, and dare not trust it on its own Bottom, perhaps vainly imagining, that if both the Taxes are blended together, you have a better Chance of being gratified in your ambitious View of getting your Chief Governor and his Estate subjected to your Mercy, than if the Bills are separated; in which Case you probably fear, that the Merits of the Cause alone, might determine it against you.

For my Part, I have such an implicit Confidence in the Royal Justice, that I am certain, if the Proprietary Claim to an Exemption be just in itself, the present, or any other Law, by which they are taxed, would be rejected in the common Method, although the Crown should be thereby, for a Time, deprived of the greatest Sums: Wherefore, as I forsaw the manifest Inconveniences that might ensue, from a total Rejection of the present Law, I proposed a Separation of the two Parts of the Bill, by which Method the present Exigences of the Province would be supplied, whatever might be the Royal Determination with regard to the Proprietary Exemption.

But you tell me, in the next Place, that my Proposal also implies a Contradiction, namely, *to pass one Bill declaring positively that the Proprietary Estate shall not be taxed, and another expressly to tax it;*——and the good natured Construction you put upon this, is, that I thereby aimed to secure an infallible Exemption of the Proprietaries from Taxation, *by leading you into an Absurdity in the Mode of taxing them.* This I shall leave among the rest of your groundless Charges against me, and observe that the Bill, as amended by me, only excepts the Proprietary Estate in the Taxes to be laid by that Bill, but no where, that I can find, declares either positively or otherwise, that it shall not be taxed by another Bill; so that the Absurdity you mention does not appear to me. However, if what you are pleased to call the diametrical Contradiction of the two proposed Bills be really any Objection with you, I shall very readilly agree to one Amendment more, which will perfectly reconcile them, by the Addition of a very few Words to the Exemption Clause in the first Bill, as follows:—[The Estates of the Honorable *Thomas Penn* and *Richard Penn*, Esquires, excepted, which shall be taxed in the Manner directed by a particular Law passed (or to be passed) for that Purpose.] Thus both Bills will declare positively, that the Proprietaries are to be taxed, if his Majesty shall so think fit.

Your Extracts from the Votes of the House of Commons prove nothing to the Purpose for which you quote them; they only shew, what nobody denies, that, by the Constitution of *England*, the Commons have long claimed the Privilege of having their Supply-Bills passed or rejected without Amendments; but are by no Means applicable to the Circumstances of this Province.

The Constitution of *England* is of long Standing, founded upon ancient Usage, and ripened by Time and the Wisdom of Ages to its present Perfection. There the King, Lords and Commons make up the supreme Power, to each of which the Constitution has assigned particular and peculiar Prerogatives, Rights and Privileges, in order to keep up a proper Balance, and make them (what, for the Benefit of the Nation, they ought to be,) a Check upon each other.

The Constitution of this Province is founded upon certain Royal and Proprietary Charters, being subordinate, and no way similar to that of *England*, nor composed of the like constituent Parts. Here the whole Power is lodged in the Governor and Assembly, who have all along exercised equal Legislative Powers, each of them having a Right to propose Laws, and to amend what is proposed by the other.

Till, therefore, you can shew that the Constitution of this Province is similar to that of England, composed of the like Parts, and that each of them have the like or similar Powers and Privileges, you can found no Claim upon the Usage of of Parliament, for having your Money-Bills passed without the Governor's Amendments; and therefore your Extracts from the Votes of the House of Commons were a very needless Addition to your Message.

You mentioned *Twenty Amendments offered by me to the Bill of last Assembly, and that you being a new Body* [composed almost wholly of the same Members] *admitted every one of them that was of any Consequence into the present Bill, excepting that of exempting the Proprietary Estate.* But this one Amendment was of so material Consequence, that your Refusal to admit of it made it the Proposal of a separate Bill a necessary Expedient, and obliged me to make other Amendments; so that you had no Reason for bursting out into such a lofty Strain of Rhetoric, telling me, that now *I am for amending my own Amendments, altering my own Alterations, and adding to my own Additions;* for had you agreed to my first Amendments, Alterations and Additions, any future ones would have been needless.

You speak of many Bills proposed in vain by you, for the Relief of your distressed Country. 'Tis true, you have in all proposed to me five Money Bills; three of them rejected, because contrary to Royal Instructions. The other two were rejected on account of the unjust Method proposed for taxing the Proprietary Estate. If you are disposed to relieve your Country, you have many other Ways of granting Money, to which I shall have no Objection.

In, this, as well as in some other Messages, you affect to treat me as a Stranger, and tell me, that it is at least probable you are more deeply concerned for the Distresses of this Country than I am, because most of you are Natives of it, and have your Estates in it. I am surprized, Gentlemen, that you do not blush to have Recourse to such weak and fallacious Reasoning. Although I was not born within the Limits of this Province, I was born in its Neighbourhood.

Nay, the Chief Part of my Estate lies much near to this City than the Estates of some of you who sit in Assembly; and when your Estates are in Danger, I can by no Means think mine safe. And here I would observe that if the Consideration of being bred up among you, and possessing large Property in the Province, could have secured you good Treatment of any Governor, my immediate Predecessor had the fairest Claim to such Treatment, and would have been exempted fro those manifold Abuses, which it has been his Lot, as well as mine, to receive at your Hands.—— But I conceive, Gentlemen, that our Actions, not the Place of our Estates or Nativity, are the best Test of our Affection for this Country. You will suffer me, therefore, briefly to review your Conduct and mine, and leave them both to speak for themselves.

And here, was I inclined to go beyond my own Times, I might begin with reminding you how contemptuously you treated the Proprietary Offer of *Four Hundred Pounds* for erecting a Place of Strength on the *Ohio*, together with an Offer of *One Hundred Pounds per Annum* towards its Support; which Offers were made at a Time, when your Concurrence would probably have prevented many of the Calamities we now groan under.

I might also observe, that when Mr. *Hamilton* first called upon you, pursuant to his Majesty's Orders, to grant such Supplies as would enable him to draw forth the Strength of the Province, and to repel Force by Force, you would not admit that the *French* Encroachments and Fortifications on the *Ohio* were within our Limits or his Majesty's Dominions; thereby seeking an Excuse to avoid doing what was required of you. And when, after the Loss of much Time, you thought fit to drop this Dispute, you then entered upon a fresh one, concerning the Legality of Royal Instructions, in order still to gain more Time, and avoid doing what you judged inconsistent with your Principles; nevertheless, it is clear, that if you had complied with Mr. *Hamilton's* Request, and given seasonably what Money the Excise could raise in the Term he proposed, the *French* might have been prevented from strengthening themselves in their present unwarrantable Encroachments.

On my Accession to the Government you began on the same Plan of Dispute and Delay; but as I am informed that there was a full and strong Representation, both of your Conduct and mine, so far as related to the Disputes, in the Beginning of my Administration, laid before his Majesty in a Report of the Lords Commissioners of Trade, upon your Address concerning Instructions, I shall go no father back than *December* last.

On the Nineteenth of that Month I communicated to you a Letter from Sir *Thomas Robinson*, notifying his Majesty's Intentions of employing four Regiments for the Defence and Security of these Colonies, to be raised and argumented in *America*, and requiring a Sum of Money towards a general Fund, and to have Three Thousand Men in Readiness, with a proper Quantity of Provisions, *&c.* the Whole to be under the Direction of a General Officer of Character, who was to be sent as Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in these Parts; but you did not think fit to raise a single man, or give One farthing of Money in Compliance with this Request. I did also at the same Time recommend it to you, to prepare a Law for regulating the Wages to be paid for such Tradesmen, Horses and Carriages, as it might be necessary to impress into his Majesty's Service. To this you replied, *That you could not presume the Military Officers would, or ought to have, any Power of impressing Tradesman within this Province, and that the other Parts of my Message might remain under Consideration, without any considerable Inconvenience.*

As soon as the late general arrived, I again recommended it to you, to make an immediate Provision for raising the Men, and supplying the Money, and other Necessaries expected from this Province; and did, throughout the whole Summer, from Time to Time, press you to grant your Aid and Assistance to the Expedition then on Foot; but you had one general Answer for all, namely, That if some Bill, which you had always ready to offer, for striking a Sum of Money for the King's Use, should once be passed, it would answer all the Purposes required of you; and yet every one of those Bills were all the while liable to one and the same Objection, on the Footing of the Royal Instructions. And besides this, you never took the least Notice of the Demand for a Supply of Men, which from this populous Province was at least as material an Article as Money.

At last, upon the Defeat of his Majesty's Forces, for Want of that timely Support and Assistance, which it was in the Power of this Province to have afforded, I laid before you, in the strongest Terms, the Dangers to which this Country stood exposed, and called upon you to put it into a Posture of Defence, that the People might be secured against the Invasions, naturally to be expected in Consequence of that Defeat; but all this was to no Purpose.—— However, having been informed of the Report of the Lords of Trade against your Address, and that your Conduct was generally condemned in England, you thought fit to drop the old Dispute concerning Instructions, and to start a new one about taxing the Proprietary Estate, which you very well knew I had no Power by my Commission to do: Besides, as the Proprietaries were absent, and this your extraordinary Claim relating to a Matter of Property, and was contrary to a Law in Force, you could not imagine that it would be easily given up, or speedily determined, and therefore you could propose nothing by it, but, as usual, to evade the Point of raising an armed Force, and granting the necessary Supplies. And now, when in Consideration of the Distresses of this unhappy Country, I have consented even to exceed the Powers of my Commission, in order to lay that Dispute before his Majesty, by a separate Bill for that particular Purpose, you start a new Claim, unknown to former Assemblies, of having your Bills, giving Money, passed without Amendments; and upon no better Foundation than this imaginary Privilege, you refuse the necessary Assistance to your bleeding Country.—— But, Gentlemen, I must tell you, that I cannot consistent with my Duty, or the Trust reposed in me, recede from my Amendments to that your Bill. And here give me Leave to express my Satisfaction at your intended Complaint against me, and to assure you, that nothing gives me greater Pleasure, than the Hopes of having my Conduct and yours laid before the Crown, where I hope they will both undergo the strictest Examinations; and as I expect no Favour from you, so I am not afraid of the utmost Efforts of your Malice, being conscious to myself, that I have done nothing to the Prejudice of the People committed to my Care, or neglected any Thing in my Power that could tend to their Security or lasting Happiness.

Upon the Whole, it appears clear to me, that you never intended that any of your Bills should pass for raising Money to defend the Province; and this seems now to be placed beyond all Disputes, since those Poeple under whose Influence you are chiefly known to be, are said to have declared publicly to you, that they would sooner suffer than pay towards such Purposes.

However, I shall put one Proof more, both of your Sincerity and mine, in our Professions of Regard for the Public, by offering to agree to any Bill, in the present Exigency, which it is consistent with my Duty to pass, lest before our present Disputes can be brought to an Issue, we should neither have a Privilege to dispute about, nor a Country to dispute in.

Philadelphia November 22, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

EXTRACTS *from the* Minutes of Council, *commencing from the Proprietary* WILLIAM PENN, *Esq; his leaving the Province in* 1701.

ON the old Proprietary's Departure from the Province in 1701, *Andrew Hamilton*, Esq; was appointed Lieutenant Governor; but by reason of the unsettled State of the Province, and the Assemblies differing with him, chiefly on account of his pressing them to make a Militia Law, and to provide for the Defence of the Province, no Laws passed in his Time, and he dying in *March*, 1703, the Council acted till Governor *Evan's* Appointment to the Government in *February*, 1703-4.

In Governor EVANS's *Time.*

A BILL for granting a Supply for Support of Government, read in Council, and agreed to with some Amendment.

An Amendment insisted on by the Governor to the Bill, entitled, *An Act for raising a Supply of* Two-pence Half Penny per Pound, *and* Ten Shillings per *Head, viz.* That the Assembly should not have Power to dispose of any Part of the Money to be raised by that Act, without the Governor's Concurrence; and it was agreed by the House [all then present, with their Speaker *David Lloyd*] "That the Assembly should have no Power to dispose of any of the said Money, but for Discharge of Debts then incumbent on the Province, and for the necessary Charges of their own House, and that in all other Cases the Governor's Concurrence with the Assembly should be required."

And the said Supply Bill was accordingly passed with the said Amendment.

Note, Governor *Evans*, soon after the passing this Law, likewise differing with his Assemblies on the disagreeable Subject of Defence, few or no Laws were passed in the Remainder of his Time; and he growing extremely obnoxious to the Assembly, they got him superseded, and he was succeeded by Colonel *Gookin.*

In Governor GOOKIN's *Time.*

IN a Message from the Assembly to the Governor, pressing him to pass twelve Bills which had been sent up to him for his Concurrence by that and former Assemblies, amongst which were some Bills for raising Monies by County Levies, Duties, *&c* are these Words, *viz.*—— "Whereunto we earnestly desire they Concurrence, with what other reasonable Bills may be prepared by this Assembly; or otherwise be pleased to let us know thy Objections to those Bills, and we shall readily agree to any reasonable Proposals of Amendments to them."——

In a Message from the Governor to the House, on his sending back the said Bills to be drawn by them with some Amendments, is this Clause:

"The Governor is very desirous that a Bill of Fees, distinct from that of Courts, may be immediately proceeded upon by a Committee, as he before proposed; for he is of Opinion, with the Council, that it will be the safest Method to bring each distinct Matter into a separate Act, that in case one be rejected at Home, the rest may not fall with it."

And accordingly a distinct Bill of Fees was prepared and passed.

Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to the Bill for raising Monies by licensing Taverns, allowed by the Assembly.

Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to the following Bills, *viz. An Act for raising a Supply of* Two-pence per Pound, *and* Eight Shillings per Head; and *An Act for licensing Taverns; An Act for laying a Duty on* Negroes, *Wine, Rum,* &c. called the Impost Act; and *An Act for compelling the Payment of all former Taxes;* allowed by the House, and passed therewith

Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to the Bill, entituled, *An Act for raising of* Two Thousand Pounds *to the Queen's Use* [for the *Canada* Expedition] *by a Tax of* Five-pence Halfpenny per Pound, *and* Twenty Shillings per *Head;* one of which Amendments was, that the Monies should be paid by the Treasurer as the Governor should direct and appoint.

And the said Act passed with the Governor's Amendments.

Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to the Bill, entitled, *An Act for raising Money on the Inhabitants of the City of* Philadelphia, *for the Public Use and Benefit thereof*: Which passed the Seventh of June after, with several other amended Bills for raising Monies by Duties, *&c.*

Impost Bill amended by the Governor.

A Bill for laying a Duty on Wine, Rum, *&c.* a Bill for raising a Supply of *One Penny per* Pound, and *One Shilling per*

Head; and a Bill for laying a Duty on *Negroes* imported; all amended by the Governor, allowed by the House, and passed.

In Governor KEITH*'s Time.*

AMENDMENTS proposed by the Governor and Council to several Bills, *viz. An Act for laying a Duty on sundry Liquors retailing; An Act for laying a Duty on Wine, Rum,* &c. *and Hops and Flax imported; An Act for continuing a Duty on* Negroes; and *An Act for raising a Duty on Tonnage of Ships.*

N. B. In a Message from the Assembly to the Governor relating to these Bills before they passed, is this Expression—— "That they expected the Governor to send for them, in order to pass such *Bills as had already* been subjected to the Governor's Amendments, and were finished by the House."

Amendments by Governor and Council to two Bills, *viz. An Act for laying a Duty on Wine, Rum,* &c. and *An Act for laying a Duty on* Negroes, &c. and both passed so amended.

Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to *An Act for imposing a Duty on Convicts,* &c.
And to the Supplementary Act for raising County Levies.

In Governor GORDON*'s Time.*

AN *Act laying a Duty on Foreigners, and* Irish *Servants.* Also *An Act for emitting* Thirty Thousand Pounds, both passed with the Governor's Amendments.

The Assembly agrees to the Governor's Amendments to the Re-emitting Bill, and for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds.*

Clause in a Speech or Answer of the Governor's, to a Message from the Assembly, on a proposed Amendment of the Governor's to a Bill for Payment of Assemblymen's Wages, and providing a Fund for it.

"The Governor answered, that as he conceived *he had an undoubted Right to offer Amendments, and make Propositions on any Bill that should come before him, he had done so in the present Case.*"

Excise Bill passed with the Governor's Amendments. One of which was an Alteration from *Six-pence per* Gallon to *Four-pence;* and another was to reduce the Time fo the Continuance of the Act from five to Three Years.

In Governor THOMAS*'s Time.*

A MONEY Bill, *viz. An Act for re-printing and reemitting the Bills of Credit,* and for striking Eleven Thousand Pounds, passed with several Amendments of the Governor's

In a Dispute between the Governor and Assembly (Mr. *Kinsey* then Speaker) on the Bill for raising Money on the Inhabitants of the City, are these Expressions of the Assembly,—— "If the Bill abridges the Corporation in their Privileges, or be deficient in the Powers of the Commisioners and Assessors, it may be amended by the Governor, and to which they would chearfully agree."—— And further, "And the Governor's Power of insisting on any Amendment proposed by himself, where he shall think it just, is what we never contended against."

Governor's Amendment of Excise Bill, agreed to by the House, and passed so amended.

*Money Bill, *viz. An Act for re-emitting and continuing the Loan of the Bills of Credit*, &c passed with Governor's Amendments.

†*Act for raising* Five Thousand Pounds *for his Majesty's Use*, passed with the Governor's Amendments."

The Secretary likewise brought down the Bill for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province which he acquainted the House the Governor was ready to pass into a Law whenever the House should think proper to present it to him for that purpose.

The following written Message from the Governor was also brought down with the said Bill, and read, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE considered your Bill *for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for* many Things in it of a very extraordinary Nature, and I am convinced that it will never answer the Purpose of defending *Military Purposes within this Province*, and though there are this Province, even it it could be carried into Execution in any reasonable Time, which I am afraid it cannot; yet to shew you that I am desirous of doing any Thing that has even a Chance of contributing to the Safety of the People and Province, I shall consent to your Bill in the Shape you have sent it, as it would be entering into new Disputes, should I amend it properly.

Philadelphia, November 22, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

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*1745. *March* 3.

†1746. *June* 24.

Ordered, That the Bill for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province be ingrossed.

Ordered, That *Jonathan Ingham* and *Joseph James* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House have considered the Governor's Message of this Day, relateing to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and adhere to the said Bill; and they therefore desire, if the Governor insists upon his proposed Amendments, that he would be pleased to return the said Bill to the House.

The Message from the Governor of this Morning, relating to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, being again read, and considered; and it appearing to the House to be a little else than a Collection of the Governor's former groundless Charges and inveterate Calumnies against the Assemblies and People of this Province, which have from Time to Time been fully refuted;

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Webb*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to consider the said Message, and report whether they think it necessary for this House to make any Answer thereto.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Five Pounds* be given to *Rachel Lininger*, in Consideration of her present distressed Circumstances, occasioned by her Husband being lately killed on the Frontiers of this Povince by the Enemy *Indians*.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should not recede from his proposed Amendments to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and that when he had taken some Copies of the said Bill, it should be returned to the House.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Account of *John Potter*, Sheriff of *Cumberland* County, and were of Opinion, that the same ought to be allowed and paid by this House.—— To which Report the House agreed;

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day* at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, according to their Adjournment.

The Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to which the Governor had refused his Assent, was brought to the House by the Clerk, who informed the House, that he had received it from the Secretary, for that Purpose.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House Three Messages in Writeing, and the Report of a Committee of the Governor's Council concerning the Claim of the *Shawanese Indians* to the Lands about *Conedoguinet*, which were read, and are as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'HAD you been as explicit in your first Message as you was in your last, about the *Shawanese Indians*, I should have been sooner able to have given you a full Answer as to your Enquiries upon that Subject.

The Government of this Province has ever been remarkable for its just and favourable Treatment of the *Indians;* and so far have the Proprietaries been from depriving them of their Lands, without paying for them, that they have purchased the most of them more than once; and the *Indians* on their Parts have upon all Occasions acknowledged this Justice, and in Return made warm Professions of their Friendship and Affection to the Proprietaries and People of this Province; and I never heard either of the particular Complaint you mention in your Message of the Eighth Instant, of any Complaint of the Kind. However, as it was before my Administration, I referred the Matter to the Consideration of a Committee of the Council, who have carefully examined the several Treaties and Transactions with those *Indians*, and have made a full Report as to the Matters you enquire about, which I send you with this; and from which it seems clear to me, that no such Complaint or Promise was ever made.

Philadelphia, November 22, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

To the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, *Esq; Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *and Counties* of New-Castle, Kent *and* Sussex, *upon* Delaware.

May it please the GOVERNOR,

YOUR Honour and the Council having taken into Consideration the Message from the Assembly of the Fifth Instant, wherein they "request you would be pleased to inform them, whether you know of any Disgust or Injury the *Delawares* or

Shawanese have ever received from this Province, and by what Means their Affections can be so alienated as to take up the Hatchet against us:" And also their other Message of the Eighteenth Instant on the same Subject, wherein they "enquire particularly, whether the Chiefs of the *Shawanese* did not, in 1753, complain to this Government, that Satisfaction had not been made to them by the Proprietaries for a large Tract of Land, Part of which was surveyed into the Proprietary Manor on *Conedoguinet*, and whether they were not then promised that Application should be immediately made to the Proprietaries, in their Behalf, to obtain the Satisfaction they desired; and whether such Application has been made, and the Satisfaction obtained and given."

And it being, by Order of Council of the Nineteenth Day of *November* instant, referred to us, as a Committee of the said Council, to examine all the proper Persons, and to inspect the Council Books, *Indian* Treaties, and other Books and Papers that could furnish us with any Lights into the Subject Matter of the said Messages, and to make our Report thereon; We now report, that we have perused the printed Treaty held by *Richard Peters*, *Isaac Norris* and *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquires, by special Commission from this Government, with the said *Delawares* and *Shawanese Indians*, *&c.* at *Carlisle*, in *October*, 1753, which we suppose was the Time and Place alluded to by the Assembly in their said second Message, of the said *Indians* making such Complaint of their not having received Satisfaction for the said large Tract of Land, expecting to see some Notice taken therein of such Complaint; but not finding in it any Mention made thereof, we applied to the said Mr. *Peters*, to know whether he remembered any such Complaint to have been made by the said *Indians* at *Carlisle*, or elsewhere, or of any Promise to make an Application for them to the Proprietaries for such Satisfaction; to which he answered, that he did not remember ever to have heard at *Carlisle*, or elsewhere, of any such Complaint being made by the said *Indians*, or any of them, or that any Promise was ever given of making Application on their Behalf to the Proprietaries for such Satisfaction; and that he never understood that the *Shawanese* had or could have any Right to the said Land, or any other Land in this Province.

That in order to find what Right the said *Indians* had or claimed to the said large Tract of Land, and whether there was any just Foundation for such a Complaint, we have inspected all the Minutes of Council, and other Books and Papers that we conceived could assist us in the said Enquiry, and find, that the Nation of *Indians*, called the *Shawanese*, are *Southern Indians*, who, being rendered uneasy by their Neighbours, came up to *Conestogoe* about the Year 1698, making about Sixty Families, and desired Leave of the *Susquehanna Indians* who then lived there, to settle on that River.—— That the *Susquehanna Indians* applied to this Government, that the *Shawanese* might be admitted to settle, and said, that they would become answerable for their good Behaviour. That the first Proprietary, WILLIAM PENN, Esq; arriving soon after this Transaction, the Chiefs of the *Shawanese* and *Susquehanna Indians*, came to this City, and renewing their said Application, the Proprietary agreed to their Settlement there; whereupon the *Shawanese* came under the Protection of this Government, From that Time greater Numbers of those *Indians* followed them, and settled on *Susquehanna*, and the Upper Parts of *Delaware*. That as they had joined themselves to the *Susquehanna Indians*, who were dependant on the *Five Nations*, they thereby fell also under their Protection. That several Treaties were held with those amongst the other *Indians* at different Times by this Government; and from their first coming, they were accounted and treated as our *Indians*. That some of their young men, about the Year 1727, committed some Disorders in this Province, and though the Government had fully forgiven them for these Outrages, yet, being on that Account threatened by, and therefore afraid of, the *Six Nations*, they removed to the River *Ohio* in the Year 1728, or 1729, and there, soon after, put themselves under the Protection of the *French*, who received them as their Children. That Messages were sent from this Government to them to return to us; and Applications were made to the *Six Nations* to interpose and prevail on them so to do. And the better to induce and encourage them to leave the *French*, a large Tract of Land was offered them on the West-Side of *Susquehanna*, where they had been settled before, and they were desired by all Means to return thither. That the Proprietary, THOMAS PENN, upon his Arrival in the Year 1732, again pressed them to return and live on this Land, which he promised them should be always kept for them and their Children, if they would come and live upon it; but they declined it, saying, they were afraid of their Enemies the *Tuteloes*, and that it was not convenient for their Hunting, but desired that the Land might be kept for them which it has ever since been. But we find the Assembly are mistaken in their said second Message, in saying that Part of the said large Tract was surveyed into the Proprietary Manor, on

Conedoguinet; for the Fact was, that in order the more effectually to keep off any other Settlers on that large Tract, the Proprietaries caused the Whole of it to be surveyed as a Proprietary Manor. And in looking into many of the Proprietary *Indian* Purchases, we find that this Land has been bought over and over again by the Proprietaries, as well of the *Susquehanna Indians* as of the *Six Nations*, to whom it did belong.

We thought proper to report these Matters thus particularly, that it might appear evident that the *Shawanese* did not originally belong to this Province, and never had any Right to any Lands in it, or made any Pretensions thereto, but that the Proprietaries, from Favour, and to encourage those *Indians* to remove from the Neighbourhood of the *French*, and live among us, offered them the said large Tract of Land for their Habitation.

We likewise find by the said Treaty held by the said Commissioners at *Carlisle* in 1753, that the Chiefs of both these Nations of *Delawares* and *Shawanese*, did, in a solemn Manner, renew the Treaties of Amity and Friendship with this Province.

We further find, that in the Fall of the Year 1754, Mr. *Weiser* was deputed by this Government to have an Interview with the several Nations of *Indians* at *Aughwick*, amongst whom were some of the same Chiefs of the *Delawares* and *Shawanese* as were at Carlisle the Year before; and by his Journal it appears that these very Chiefs made the strongest Professions of their Friendship to this Government, and of the grateful Sense they retained of the constant good Usage and Favors they had received from it, and in particular, of our procuring the Discharge of some of the *Shawanese*, who had been made Prisoners at *Carolina*, and our kind Treatment of them in their Return, and Goodness in sending them back to their Nation; and of their own Accord did ratify, confirm and renew their League with this Government, without making the least Complaint against the Proprietaries, or this Government, on Account of the said Tract of Land, or on any other Account, as it is well known to all who are acquainted with *Indian* Affairs they would have been ready enough to do, if they had imagined they had any just Cause for it, and without making an Enquiry whether such Application had been made to the Proprietaries, and what the Success thereof had been as it was natural to expect they would, if any such Promise had been made them to do it; and therefore we conclude, that they could then have no Displeasure at any Thing done to them either by the Proprietaries or Government before that Time.

And we further beg Leave to remind your Honour, that at one of the Conferences lately had with *Scarroyady*, one of the *Six Nation* Chiefs, and *Andrew Montour*, in the Council Chamber, they being particularly asked, if the *Delawares* or *Shawanese* had any Cause of Complaint given them by this Government, they declared, that those *Indians* had never mentioned any to them; and that they never heard, not did believe, they had any, but that they attributed their Defection wholly to the Defeat of General *Braddock*, and the Encrease of Strength and Reputation gained on that Victory by the *French*, and their intimidating those *Indians*, and using all Means by Promises and Threats to seduce and fix them in their Interest; and to the seeming Weakness and Want of Union in the English, and their appearing unable or unwilling to protect them, and particularly this Government, who had constantly refused to put the Hachet into their Hands. And we beg Leave to say, we are entirely of Opinion, that this is the true and sole Cause of their Defection.

Upon the Whole, we beg Leave to assure your Honour, that from a careful Inspection and Examination of all the Transactions between this Government and the said *Delaware* and *Shawanese Indians*, we find that the Conduct fo the Proprietaries and this Government has been always uniformly just, fair and generous towards those *Indians;* and that it does not appear to us, that they could have any Pretence of Right to the said Land, or any Part of it, nor any just Foundation for any Claim thereof, unless from the said voluntary Offer so made them by the Proprietaries, to come and live on the said Land, which they declined, and refused to accept of; nor that they had any just Cause of Complaint against the Proprietaries or this Government on that or any other Account; and that if they had made any such Complaint at the said Treaty at *Carlisle*, in 1753, the said three Commissioners, who knew so well what was proper, and have so minutely set forth the Transactions of that Treaty in their said printed Report thereof, which they therein call a full and just Account of all their Proceedings, could not possibly have omitted so material an One; but if any such Thing was there really spoke of by those *Indians*, they must, as we do, look upon it as a groundless, insignificant Claim, and not worthy of being inserted in their said Report.

Philadelphia, November 22, 1755.

ROBERT STRETTELL,
JOSEPH TURNER,
THOMAS CADWALADER."

GENTLEMEN,

'The Success of his Majesty's Arms, employed in driving the *French* from their Encroachments in *Nova-Scotia*, put it put it into the Power of Governor *Lawrence* to reduce the *French* Inhabitans of that Colony, commonly called *French Neutrals*, to a proper Obedience to his Majesty's Government, or of forcing them to quit the Country. But they refusing to swear Allegiance to his Majesty, it was thought by him, and his Majesty's Council there, as well as by the Admirals *Boscawen* and *Moyston*, necessary for the Safety of that Province, that a considerable Number of them should be removed, and divided among the other Colonies; and a Part of those destined for this Province are already arrived; but as I did not think it safe, in our present Circumstances, to permit them to land, I have ordered the Vessels that brought them to lie at a convenient Distance below the Town, and have put Guards upon them, and ordered them Provisions.

Imagining General *Shirley* to be at *New-York*, I have acquainted him of their Arrival, and the Danger that might accrue to us from such a Number of People of their Principles coming amongst us at this Time, and desired his particular Instructions in what Manner I might best dispose of them; and I wait his Answer: But as I hear he is still at Albany. and the Doctors have reported to me, that it is dangerous to suffer them to continue longer in such a crowded State, I therefore think it necessary to land them at the *Province Island*, and recommend it to you to make Provisions for them, and to enable me to place a proper Guard over them.

Philadelphia, November 24, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

GENTLEMEN,

'ON *Saturday* last I received Letters from the Proprietaries, in Answer to mine giving them an Account of the Defeat of the Forces under General *Braddock*, wherein they express great Concern at that unfortunate Event, and at the Danger to which this Province was exposed in Consequence thereof. Their Care and Regard for the Safety of the People was such, that immediately upon receiving that Piece of Intelligence, they sent me an Order upon their Receiver-General for *Five Thousand Pounds*, as a free Gift to the Public, to be applied to such Uses as that Event might make necessary for the common Security of the Province. This timely and generous Instance of the Proprietaries Care and Anxiety for the Inhabitants, cannot fail of making the most lasting Impression upon the Mind of every Well-wisher to this Country.

I have directed the Receiver-General to have the Money ready as soon as possible; and it will be paid to such Persons as shall be appointed by Act of Assembly for the Disposition of any Sum you may think necessary to raise for the Defence of the Province in this Time of Danger.

Upon this Occasion, Gentlemen, I must again recommend it to you, to lay aside all Disputes, and to grant such Supplies, in Addition to what the Proprietaries have given, as his Majesty's Service and the pressing Exigences of the Province require.

Philadelphia, November 24, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Bill for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province, being ingrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The following Remonstrance was presented to the House and read, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in ASSEMBLY met.

A REMONSTRANCE *by the* Mayor, Aldermen *and* Common-Council *of the City of* Philadelphia, *in Behalf of the said City.*

GENTLEMEN,

YOU were lately called together upon more urgent Business than ever came before an Assembly of this Province, and while you have been sitting scarce a Day has passed wherein you have not heard of the inhuman Slaughter of your Fellow-Subjects, and been loudly called upon for that Protection, which, by the most sacred Ties, you owe to the People. On such an Emergency we imagined you had an easy and expeditious Mode of Procedure before you, namely, to postpone all Disputes to a more seasonable Time; to grant the necessary Supplies on such Terms as those on which the rest of his Majesty's Colonies have granted large Sums for the like Purposes: And lastly, to pass a reasonable Law, in order to collect and regulate the Force of the Province, for repelling the present cruel Invasion. Nevertheless, while you have been deliberating, much innocent Blood hath been spilt, a great Extend of our Country laid waste, and the miserable Inhabitants scattered abroad before the savage Spoiler.

We therefore, in the most solemn Manner, before GOD, and in the Name of all our Fellow-Citzens, call upon you, adjure you, nay, we supplicate you, as you regard the Lives of the People whom you represent, to give that legal Protection to your bleeding Country, which ought to be the chief Object of all Government at such a perilous Juncture as this; and let it be no longer said, that while we are daily hearing so much concerning Privilege and Right, we are in the mean time deprived of that most essential Right, and great first Privilege, (which GOD and Nature gave us) of defending our Lives, and protecting our Families.

We profess the same Reasons for this Application which determined many of the Inhabitants of this City to make a like Application on the Twelfth Instant; and as those Reasons now lie before you, we need not repeat them further than by observing, that a well regulated Militia has always been found both the surest and least expensive Method of Defence, and that, upon any other Plan, great Sums of Money must be thrown away to little Purpose, and the People thereby burdened with grievous Taxes.

Another Reason for thus applying to you, is the great Distress which this City, committed to our Care, is like to labour under by the vast Increase of the Poor from all Parts of the Country, and the melancholy Prospect of having far greater Numbers of the unhappy Back Settlers driven in upon us from their Habitations, and continually flying to the Shelter and Charity of the City, as the Place of the greatest Safety. This must necessarily be prejudicial to the general Course of Business, and enhance the Value of all Necessaries by encreasing the Number of Mouths, and at the same Time dimishing the Number of Hands that should supply our Market; all which will prove a Burden upon us too heavy to bear.

Seeing therefore our Affairs are brought to such a Crisis, and as this our reasonable Demand cannot require much Time for your Consideration, having already been so often made to you by Petitions from all Parts of the Province, we do earnestly recommend Dispatch to you; for as the People seem already in a deplorable and desperate Condition, we fear it will not be possible to reserve the Peace and Quiet of this City, nor of the Province itself, much longer, if some effectual

Methods are not speedily taken for their general Defence and Security.

November 24, 1755. *By Order of the Board,*

WILLIAM PLUMSTED, *Mayor.*"

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Committee appointed to consider the Governor's Message of the Twenty-second Instant, relating to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, made a Report thereon in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

WE have considered the Governor's long Message of the Twenty-second Instant, and are of Opinion, that as the Bulk of the said Message consists of groundless Charges and Calumnies against the Assemblies and People of this Province, which have been repeatedly refuted in the Answers of the Assembly of *May* 17, *August* 8, *August* 19, *September* 29, *&c &c* there is not now the least Necessity of giving any Answer to those Parts of the Message, they may be safely left to themselves.

And though we had prepared a full Answer to the rest of that Message, yet as there seems from the Governor's Message of last Night some Hopes of an Agreement with him, in the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, which is the principal Business of the present Session, we submit it to the House, whether at this Time it may not be more consistent with the Prudence and Moderation of the House to suppress it.

There is however one or two new Charges against the Assemblies of this Province, which it may be proper to take some Notice of. The first is, that they "contemptously treated the Proprietary Offer of *Four Hundred Pounds*, for erecting a Place of Strength on the *Ohio*, together with an Offer of *One Hundred Pounds per Annum* towards its Support; which offers were made at a Time when the Concurrence of the Assembly would probably have prevented many of the Calamities we now groan under."

What this "contemptous Treatment" was is not here specified, but may be explained by a Passage in the *Brief State*, Page 12, where it is said, the House refused the Proposal a Place in their Minutes. But, in Truth, the Proposal of building a strong House upon the *Ohio* appears upon our Minutes, in Pages 75, 76 and 82*, of the Election in 1750; and nothing further than what is there could properly be made a Part of those Records. The late Governor *Hamilton*, after sending the Message of the Thirteenth of *August*, 1751, requested a private Meeting with some of the Members of that House, but without any Authority from the Assembly.

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*In this Volume of the Votes Page 189 to 193.

At this Meeting Governor *Hamilton* offered, on Behalf of the Proprietaries, *Four Hundred Pounds*, toward building such a House upon or near the *Ohio* (but not a Syllable of maintaining or supporting it.) The *Indians* were so far from pressing our engaging in it, that Instructions were drawn by this Government to require it of them, at a Treaty held by *G. Groghan*, in *May*, 1751, and they evidently shewed themselves apprehensive such an Attempt might give Umbrage to the *French*, and bring them down from the *Ohio* with an armed Force, to take Possession of those Lands. And about two Years afterwards, these very *Ohio Indians*, at the Treaty held at *Carlisle*, in *October*, 1753, say to our Government, "I desire you would hear and take Notice of what I am about to say; the Governor of *Virginia* desired Leave to build a strong House on *Ohio*, which came to the Ears of the Governor of *Canada*, and we suppose this caused him to invade our Country." *Treaty* Page 8. The same Sentiments appeared among the *Six Nations* at the *Albany* Treaty; "that the *English* and *French* were only contending which of them should have their Lands." The Reasoning made use of by the Members at this private Conference with the late Governor was, that the Land, where they proposed to built it, was claimed by the Crown, and was very probably beyond the Limits of *Pennsylvania;* that, at least, it would be beyond the Reach of our Laws, as appeared by the People already settled on *Juniata*, just beyond the *North Mountain;* that this, instead of healing, might create irreconcilable Breaches with our *Indians*, considering what Sort of People would probably reside there; that the Indians had never heartily requested it, nor did it seem to be their Interest so to do; and if they had requested it, as they were in Subjection to the *Six Nations*, it would be necessary to have their Assent; that this precipitate Act would probably create a Jealousy in the *French*, and give them some pretence of an Infraction of the Treaty of *Utrecht* on our Part, and might finally engage the *British* Nation in a War with *France*. These, and many other Reasons, were urged at that pivate Conference, as several of those Members apprehended to Governor *Hamilton's* Satisfaction. And it appears by *George Croghan's* Journal, that those *Indians* neither did, nor did they think they could, give Leave to build a House on the *Ohio*, without the express Consent of the *Six Nations;* and accordingly they took Two Months to acquaint the *Onondago* Council with this Transaction, and then to send us Word, which they never complied with.

It appears further, by the Assembly's Message to Governor *Hamilton*, on the Twenty-first of *August*, 1751, taken from the Informations of *Conrad Weiser* and *Andrew Montour*, "that the Request inserted in *George Croghan's* Journal, as made by the *Indians* at *Ohio* to this Government, to erect a strong Trading House in their Country, as well as the Danger 'tis there said they apprehended from the Attempts of the *French*, were misunderstood, or misrepresented by the Person the Governor confided in for the Management of that Treaty." But it may be unnecessary to pursue this Enquiry into an Affair wherein *George Croghan* thought himself unkindly, if not unjustly, sacrificed to private Ends, as is well known to such as were acquainted with this Affair, and appears in the Letters and other Papers sent by himself to some of the Members of that Assembly.

The other new Charge is, "That we would not admit that the *French* Encroachments were within the King's Dominions." The proceedings of the Assembly at that Time will shew, that this Charge is as ill-founded as the other; for though the House never took upon them to ascertain the Bounds of the King's Dominions, they never directly nor indirectly denied those Encroachments to be within them.

We have also considered the Extracts from the Minutes of Council, and compared them with the Journals of this House; and though at first Sight of those Extracts, it would seem as if many Supply Bills, granting Money to the Crown, had passed with Amendments from the Governor, we must observe that great Art has been used in the Forming this List of Bills contained in the Extracts; for

First, Where a Number of Bills of that Kind passed at the same Time, if the Governor had proposed Amendments to one of them, though none to the rest, they are all put down in the List as Money Bills passing at such a Time, with the Governor's Amendments.

Secondly, Where the Governor proposed Amendments to Bills, though such Amendments were not agreed to, and the Bills passed without them; yet such Bills serve to encrease this List.

Thirdly, Where the Governor proposed Amendments to Bills, which not being agreed to, the Bills never passed at all, yet these are recited as Bills, amended by the Governor.

Fourthly, Where Amendments had been proposed by the Governor, and refused by the House; and the Bills dropped;

but were resumed *de novo*, in a subsequent Session, or even a subsequent Assembly; and those Amendments then (as they properly might be) taken in; these help to make up the List of Bills amended by the Governor.

Fiftly, Where the House, rejecting the Governor's Amendments, have substituted Amendments of their own; these are called Bills amended by the Governor.

Sixthly, Where the House, to avoid the Occasion of any Disputes about Amendments of Money Bills, confiding in the Ability and good Disposition of the Governor to assist them with his Advice in the Forming of their Bills, have communicated their Draughts to him before the third Reading, and he has kindly afforded his Assistance, as was common in Governor *Keith's* Time; these are all added to swell the List of Money Bills that passed with the Governor's Amendments.

Seventhly, Bills that contained no general Grants of Money, but were in the Nature of private Bills, such as for raising Money for the Use of the City of *Philadelphia*, or the particular Uses of a County, are all added to this List.

Eighthly, Little Supplementary Bills to enforce the Collection of the Arrearages of a Tax, or the like, are ranked among those Money Bills to which Governors have proposed Amendments.

Ninthly, Where the Governor only objected to the Officer nominated in an Excise Bill, and the House adhered to their Nominated; but the Officer appearing in the House, and refusing to serve, and the House being therefore under a Necessity of nominating a new Officer; this is also reckoned among Money Bills passed with the Governor's Amendments.

Tenthly, Bills merely intended to prevent Inconveniences, by laying Penalties, Half to the Use of the Informer, and Half to the Government, are reckoned among the Money Bills, And in short, it seems as if every Bill that had the Word *Money* in it, if the Word *Amendment* could be found in any Minute of Council relating to it, is right or wrong, inlisted among the Money Bills said to be passed with the Governor's Amendments. Were all these to be deducted from the List, it would appear that there are but few Instances in our Journals of proper Money Bills amended by the Governor, and the Amendments agreed to by the House; this is no more than was acknowledged by the preceding Assembly, in their Message of the Twenty-ninth of *September*, where they say, that in a very few Instances their Predecessors might have waved that Right on particular Occasions, but had never given it up.

RICHARD PEARN,	JAMES WEBB,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,	DAVID M'CONNAUGHY,
MAHLON KIRKBRIDE,	JOSEPH ARMSTRONG,
PETER DICKS,	WILLIAM EDMONDS."

Ordered, That the Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, mentioned by the Committee in the foregoing Report, be read.

And it was read accordingly.

Resolved, That this House do agree with the Report of the Committee; and that the said Answer be at present laid aside, for the Reasons given.

The House being informed, that sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Philadelphia*, and some from the County of *Chester*, were attending without, and desired to be admitted to lay something before the House in Person, they were called in; and one of them presented to the Speaker a Paper, signed by *Twenty-nine* Persons, which was read, by Order of the House and follows in these Words, *viz.*

November 19, 1755.

"At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the County of *Philadelphia*, We, your Petitioners, here present ourselves in Person; humbly desiring that our Governor and House of Representatives do unite in the Fear of Almighty God; so, by his Grace, be enabled to proceed to take such Ways and Measures as may be most agreeable to his divine Will, for our Preservation in this Time of imminent Danger. Which is the sincere Desire and Request of us whose Names are here under subscribed."

After the foregoing Petition was read, some Conversation ensued between the Speaker and the Petitioners, to the following Purport: The Speaker told them, that it was well known this House was composed of Members chosen, without any Solicitation on their Parts, to be the Representatives of the People and Guardians of their Liberties; that the whole Powers the House were invested with were derived from the People themselves, and that as the House had hitherto, so they should still continue to discharge the high Trust reposed in them to the best of their Understanding and Abilities; and then asked them, *Whether they desired that the House should give up any Righs, which, in the Opinion of the House, the People were justly intituled to?* Some of the Petitioners, in Behalf of the Whole, answered, No; *they were far from re-*

quiring any Thing of that Kind; all they wanted was that some Expedient might be fallen upon, if possible, to accommodate Matters in such a Manner as that the Province might be relieved from its present unhappy Situation.

To this the Speaker replied, that Nothing could be more agreeable to this House than a Harmony between the two Branches of the Legislature; and that as the Governor had Yesterday Evening sent down a Message, intimating that the Proprietaries are now disposed to contribute a Sum of Money towards the common Security of the Province, there was a great Probability that all Controversies on that Head were at an End, and that some Method would be speedily taken for relieving the Province from its present Difficulties.

And the Petitioners being withdrawn, their Petition was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Resolved, That as the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, which was presented to the Governor for the Purposes mentioned in the said Petition, is now returned to the House without his Assent, this House will, as soon as may be, proceed to consider what other Means are in their Power to answer the Prayer of the said Petition, and to afford the Province suitable Relief under its present distressed Circumstances.

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *David M'Connaughy* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province is engrossed, and that the House desire he would be pleased to appoint some of the Council to join with the said Members of this House, to compare the same. And further, desire that the Governor would be pleased to appoint a Time when the House shall wait upon him, in order to have the said Bill passed in a Law.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to appoint a Member of the Council to join the Members of this House in comparing the engrossed Bill, who found it to agree with the Original; and he was pleased to say, that he would be in the Council Chamber at Four o'Clock this Afternoon, in order to pass the same into a Law.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary.

SIR,

"The Governor is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House, in order to pass the Militia Bill into a Law."

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *David M'Connaughy* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited on the Governor.

And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province*, to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

Upon Motion made,

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that the Trustees of the *Province-Island* should admit as many of the *French* Neutrals into the Houses on said Island as conveniently may be; and this House will make Provision for defraying the Charges the said Trustees shall be put to in maintaining the said Neutrals.

The Governor's Message, relating to the Proprietaries Offer of *Five Thousand Pounds*, being again read, and considered;

Resolved, N. C. D. That the Right of granting Supplies to the Crown in this Province, is alone in the Representatives of the Freemen met in Assembly, being essential to an *English* Constitution. And the Limitation of all such Grants, as to the Matter, Manner, Measure and Time, is in them only.

Resolved, That in Consideration of the Governor's Message of Yesterday, by which it appears, that the Proprietaries have sent him an Order on the Receiver General for *Five Thousand Pounds*, to be paid into the Hands of such Persons as shall be appointed by Act of Assembly, and applied with such Sums as the Assembly should grant, to such Uses as may be necessary for the common Security of the Province; and as it would not be reasonable or just, at this Time, to tax the Proprietary Estate, in order to raise Money therefrom, over and above the said Grant from the Proprietaries, the House will immediately proceed to form a new Bill for granting a Sum of Money to the Use of the Crown, and therein omit the Taxation of the said Estate.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon Kirkbride, Peter Dicks, James Wright, David M'Connaughy,* *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a Bill for the Purposes aforesaid.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, reported, that the same is done, and that it is deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill for granting the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same (*wherein the Proprietary Estate is exempted from Taxation towards raising the said Sum, in Consideration of their granting* Five Thousand Pounds *in Lieu thereof*) was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Secretary brought down to the House sundry Letters and Papers, containing an Account of the Destruction of *Mahony*, a *Moravian* Settlement in this Province, which he informed the House the Governor had just received by Express from *Northampton* County.

And the said Letters and Papers were read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same*, being read the second and third times, by special Order,

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* and *Joseph Armstrong* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

Ordered, That *Mary Burden* do, as soon as may be, in the next ensuing Spring, remove out of the Office, in the Western Wing of the State-house, where she has dwelt for some Time past; and that the Superintendents of the State-house do give her Notice thereof.

The House being informed, that sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Northampton* were attending without, and had something to offer to the House, they were called in; and, after informing the House of the Apprehensions the Inhabitants of the said County were under, on Account of the late Incursions of the *Indians*, they withdrew.

Anthony Benezet attending without, was called in, and informed the House, that he had, at the Request of some of the Members visited the *French* Neutrals now on board sundry Vessels in the River near the City, and found that they were in great Want of Blankets. Shirts, Stockings, and other Necessaries; and he then withdrew.

Resolved, That this House will allow such reasonable Expences as the said *Benezet* may be put to in furnishing the Neutral *French* now in this Province with Necessaries.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to the Governor, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should immediately take the said Bill into Consideration, and give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock *P. M.*

The following Petition from sundry Creditors of *George Croghan* and *William Trent* was laid before the House and read, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the Province of Pennsylvania, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met.

The PETITION *of the principal Creditors of* George Croghan *and* William Trent, *of the County of* Cumberland, *Partners, and* Indian *Traders.*

Humbly sheweth,

THAT the said *George Croghan* and *William Trent* stand indebted to your Petitioners, and sundry others, in considerable and large Sums of Money; and that by many Losses, occasioned by the Defection of our *Indian* Allies from their former Friendship and Amity with this Province, and the Invasion and Conquest by the *French* on the *Ohio*, and the adjacent Country, (where, for the most Part, the Goods purchased of your Petitioners were sold, the Contracts by the said *George Croghan* and *William Trent* made, and their Debts became due) they are rendered altogether destitute of Money or Effects to make that Satisfaction to their Creditors, which their Inclination and Conscience would oblige them to do, were it in their Power.

That the said *George Croghan* has been for some Time, and is now, at *Aughwick*, in the most melancholy and deplorable Circumstances, in a Condition very defenceless, destitute of all Kinds of Provisions, but what is procured at the Hazard of his Life, and daily liable to the Invasion and Massacre of our Barbarian Enemies; that your Petitioners are well assured that the sole Cause of his continuing there, in this dangerous and truly unhappy Situation, proceeds from an

Apprehension that some of his Creditors would lay him under an Arrest, and deprive him of his Liberty, should he come into the more settled Parts of the Province; that although the chief and principal of the Creditors of the said *George Croghan* and *William Trent* reside in this City, and are of the Subscribers hereunto, yet there are many others to whom less Sums are due, dispersed throughout the several Counties in this and the adjacent Province, which renders it next to imposible to procure all their Creditors to sign a general Letter of Licence (the usual Method made use of in such Cases) however inclinable they may be so to do: That your Petitioners conceiving, that the Keeping of the said *George Croghan* under his present unhappy Circumstances will answer no good End, and at the same Time taking into their Consideration the great Knowledge of the said *George Croghan* in *Indian* Affairs, his extensive Influence among them, and the Service and public Utility he may be of to this Province in these Respects, they are willing chearfully to surrender up their just Demands against the said *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, for the Space of Ten Years; and are induced to pray, that this House would be pleased to take the Premises into their wise and prudent Consideration, and enact such a Law as they shall think most expedient and render the said *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, or either of them, free from any Arrest, Suit, Trouble or Molestation whatsoever, for any Sums of Money which now are due, or contracted for, and yet to become due, as well to us as to others their said Creditors, Inserting, nevertheless, in the said Act a Proviso, that nothing therein contained shall affect any Debts which are due to any Person whatever from the said *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, in Company with others, so as to discharge their Partners (if any there be) from such Company Debts; and your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, will ever pray.

Jeremiah Warder,
Samuel Neave,
William and *David M'Ilvaine*,
Buckridge Sims,
Benjamin and *Samuel Showmaker*,
James Wallace,
James Benezet,
Thomas Campbell,
William West,
Adam Hoops,
John Potter,
For late Company of *Levy* and Company,
David Franks.
Joseph Morris."

Ordered, That the Petitioners have Leave to bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in their Petition.

The Secretary brought down the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, with a verbal Message, that the Governor is ready to pass the same into a Law whenever the House shall present it to him for that Purpose.

The Account from *James Rankin*, for Services done on the *Ohio* Road, was agreed to be allowed by the House.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, being ingrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *Griffith Owen* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use is ingrossed, and that the House desire he would be pleased to appoint some of his Council to join with the said Members of this House, to compare the same: And likewise, that he would be pleased to appoint a Time when the House shall wait upon him, in order to have the said Bill passed into a Law.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would appoint a Member of Council to join the Members of this House to compare the ingrossed Bill with the Original; and that he would be at the Council Chamber at Four o'Clock this Afternoon, in order to enact the same into a Law.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House look upon the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, which has lain so long before the Governor, as a Bill of the utmost Consequence to the Welfare of this Province, and desire to know if he hath yet come to any Resolution thereupon.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had not yet considered the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, nor did he know when he should; that he conceived the said Bill required a great Variety of Amendments; and that he must consult the Laws of the other Provinces thereupon.

Orders were drawn on the Treasurer for the Payment of *Henry Kepple's* and *George Honey's* Accounts, for *Indian* Expences (the first amounting to *Five Pounds Fourteen Shillings* and *Six-pence*, and the latter to *Eight Pounds* and *Nine-pence*) and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *John Hughes* do meet such Members of the Council as the Governor shall appoint, to compare the engrossed Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, with the Original.

The Gentlemen return and report, that they had, with some Members of Council, compared the said engrossed Bill with the Original, and found them to agree.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *David M'Gaw's* Account, for Blankets furnished the Labourers on the *Ohio* Road, amounting to *Seven Pounds Eleven Shillings* and *Six-pence*, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed by this House.——

To which the House agreed.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor is now in the Council Chamber ready to receive the House, in order to enact the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King Use into a Law.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *John Hughes* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor.

And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same*, who was pleased to give his Assent thereto, by enactnig the same into a Law.

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* and *Joseph Armstrong* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill for the Relief of *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, for and during the Space of Ten Years, was brought in, according to the Leave of the House, read the first and second time, and, after some small Alterations made therein, ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for the Relief of* George Croghan *and* William Trent *for and during the Space of Ten Years*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Thomas Cummings* and *Peter Worral* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence; and likewise deliver to the Governor the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

AS the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, by employing sober and discreet Persons to reside among those Nations that remain Friends to this Province, for the Purpose of furnishing them with the necessary Goods in Exchange for their Peltry, at easy and reasonable Rates, on Account of the Public, and thereby securing them to our Interest, seems to us a Bill of great Importance at this Juncture, we are very desirous of bringing it to a Conclusion as soon as possible, and therefore once more earnestly request the Governor would be pleased to let us know his Sentiments upon it, and communicate the Amendments he is pleased to say he thinks needful, that we may consider them. The Bill has already lain before him above two Weeks, and we fear, if something of the Kind is not immediately gone into, we shall lose our few remaining *Indians* on *Susquehanna;* for as none of our Traders now go among them, and they dare not come down to our Settlements to buy what they want, for fear of being mistaken for Enemies, there seems to be the greatest Danger of their being necessarily driven into the Arms of the *French* to be provided with the Means of Subsistence.

November 28, 1755. *Signed by Order of the House,*

ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker."

The Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant, relating to the *French* Neutrals, was again read, and considered.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill for the Relief of *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, and the Message of the House, according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should consider the Bill relating to the *Indian* Trade as soon as possible; but he should not be able to come to a Determination thereupon by To-morrow.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of the Twenty-fourth Instant, relating to the *Shawanese Indians*, being again read, and considered;

Ordered, That *James Pemberton, Benjamin Franklin* and *James Wright* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE your Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade has been before me, my Time has been so much taken up with the Variety of Business that the Circumstances of this Province made necessary to be dispatched without Delay, that I have not been able to give it the Consideration a Bill of that Nature requires, nor to examine the Laws of the neigbouring Provinces upon that Subject.—— But as the *Indian* Trade is now at a Stand, I cannot conceive that it will be at all dangerous to the Public to defer the compleating of this Act till the next Sitting; especially as it will be necessary to call in and confine our friendly *Indians* to certain Limits, to prevent their being mistaken for and killed as Enemies, where they must be subsisted.—— This will hinder them from Hunting, so that they will have no Skins to trade with.

Philadelphia, November 29, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Secretary likewise brought down the Bill for the Relief of *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, with a proposed Amendment thereto, and informed the House that the Governor was ready to pass the said Bill into a Law, provided they agreed to the said proposed Amendment.

And the said Amendment being read, and agreed to by the House; and the Bill so amended was ordered to be engrossed.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Samuel Brown* and *Joseph Gibbons* Wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House have agreed to his proposed Amendments to the Bill for the Relief of *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, and desire he would be pleased to appoint a Time when the House shall wait upon him in order to pass the same into a Law.

The House taking into Consideration the Maintenance of the French Neutrals, sent hither by Admiral Boscawen, and the Governor of his Majesty's Colony of *Nova-Scotia*, for the Security of the said Colony, recommended it to such of their Members as were of the Board of Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use, to provide for the Subsistence of the said Neutrals out of the said Money; the Province not having any other Fund sufficient for that Purpose.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for the Relief of *George Croghan* and *William Trent*, being engrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, with the Message of Yesternight, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should be at the Council Chamber at Eleven o'Clock this Morning, in order to enact the Bill for the Relief of *George Croghan* and *William Trent* into a Law.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* do meet such of the Council as the Governor shall appoint, to compare the engrossed Bill with the Original.

And the said Member returned and reported, that he had, with the Member of Council, compared the engrossed Bill with the Original, and found them to agree.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor is now in the Council Chamber, ready to enact the Bill which has passed the House with his Concurrence into a Law."

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Joseph Gibbons* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor.

The House being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for the Relief of* George Croghan *and* William Trent *for and during the Space of Ten Years;* to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent by enacting the same into a Law.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, reported, that the same is done, and that it is deposited in the Rolls Office.

A Remonstrance from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *York*, praying for an additional Quantity of Arms and Ammunition, and that Forts may be erected at different Places on the Frontiers for the Protection of the Inhabitants, was presented to the House, and read, and recommended to the Consideration of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'GENERAL *Shirley*, pursuant to his Majesty's Orders for that Purpose, has requested me to meet him at *New-York*, in a Congress he has there appointed, as you will observe by the Extract of a Letter from him upon that Subject, which the Secretary will lay before you. At that Meeting Business of the greatest Consequence to his Majesty's Service and the Safety of these Colonies will be considered and concluded, and the Success of the next Year's Operations may in a great Measure depend on the timely Resolutions of that Council.

I have lately received such Intelligence as to the State of *Indian* Affairs, as will make it necessary for the Colonies to join in some general Treaty with those People, as well to the Southward as the Northward, which can no way so well be resolved on as at the Congress now already met.

And on the other Hand, the late Incursions of the Enemy, and the Neccessity there is of putting this Province into a Posture of Defence, as well as carrying into Execution the several Matters now in Agitation, call for my Presence, and the Authority of the Government. Under these Difficulties, I find myself at a Loss which Service to prefer, and desire you will give me your Sentiments on this momentous and pressing Occasion.

Philadelphia, December 2, 1755.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Secretary likewise brought down an Extract of a Letter from Governor *Shirly*, and several Minutes of Council, and other Papers relating to *Indian* Affairs, which were read, and considered.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, relating to the *Shawanese*, reported the same to the House; and it was read, approved, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Answer to the Governor's Message, relating to the *Shawanese Indians*, being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE have considered the Report of the Committee of the Governor's Council, to which he is pleased to refer us for an Answer to our Enquiry, relating to a Claim of the *Shawanese Indians* on the Lands near *Conedoguinet.* We are far from desiring to justify those *Indians* in their late Outrages and Murders committed against the People of this Province, in Violation of the most solemn Treaties. We believe that great Care has generally been taken to do the *Indians* Justice by the Proprietaries in the Purchases made of them, and in all our other public Transactions with them: And as they have not the same Ideas of legal Property in Lands that we have, and sometimes think they have Right when in Law they have none, but yet are cheaply satisfied for their supposed as well as real Rights, we think our Proprietaries have done wisely not only to purchase their Lands, but to "purchase them more than once." as the Governor says, they have done, rather than have any Difference with them on that Head, or give any Handle to the Enemies of the Province to exasperate those People against us. It appears indeed from the Report, that they could have but one slender Foundation for a Claim of Satisfaction for those Lands. We are however convinced, by original Minutes taken by one of the Commissioners at the Treaty of *Carlisle,* now lying before us, that the *Shawanese* Chiefs mentioned that Claim of theirs to the Lands in Question at That Time, and were promised that the Matter should be laid before the Proprietaries. It was after the Public general Business of the Treaty was over, and was not inserted in the printed Account of the Treaty, perhaps because it was thought to relate more particularly to the Proprietary than to the Province, and one of the Commissioners being himself concerned in the Proprietaries Affairs, there was Reason to believe he would take Care to get it settled; and doubtless he would have done so had he not, as appears by the Report, entirely forgot the whole transaction. We are sorry it was not done, though probably the Instigations, present Situation and Power of the *French* might have been sufficient nevertheless to have engaged those *Indians* in the War against us."

The Governor's Message of Yesternight, relating to the Congress to be held at *New-York*, being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *James Pemberton*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge* and *James Wright* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Which being accordingly done, was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Resolved, That this House will this Afternoon adjourn to the First Day of the Month called *March* next.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

WE think the present Circumstances of this Province call strongly (as the Governor observes) for his Presence here, and for the whole Authority of the Government. But as the Necessity of his attending the Congress at *New-York* is best known to the Governor, who is acquainted with the Business there to be considered and concluded on, the Particulars of which are not communicated to us, and he can therefore best judge whether his Absence from that Congress or from his Provinces will at this Time be most prejudicial to his Majesty's Service in general; we must therefore leave it to his own Judgment and Prudence which Service to prefer.

But if the Commissioners appointed by the Governor can in any Degree supply his Place at that Congress, either in concluding on the Matters proposed by the Crown, or concerting Measures for a general Treaty with the *Indians*, and the Governor should think fit to appoint some Gentlemen to that Service, we shall have no Objection on account of any reasonable Expence that may attend it, or that may be necessary to be defrayed on the Part of this Government towards the proposed General Treaty. For as this Province always has been, so we still are, ready to join with the neighbouring Colonies in any Treaty with the *Indians*, that may conduce to the general Advantage of the *British* Interest, as well as at our own Charge to make such as tend particularly to our own Peace and Security."

And the said Message, together with the foregoing one relating to the *Shawanese*, being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same; and acquaint the Governor, that the House incline to adjourn to the First Day of the Month called *March* next, if he hath no Objection thereto.

The House taking into Consideration the Governor's Answers to the several Messages of the House relating to the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that the Governor evades giving any Answer, or making any Amendments to the said Bill, as we apprehend by his Answer of the Fourteenth of *November* last, that it might be transcribed and sent over to the Proprietaries for their Opinion or Assent.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that the said Bill is of great Importance in the present critical Situation of our Affairs; and the Delay or Refusal of entering into the Consideration thereof at this Time, may be attended with very ill Consequences.

Resolved, That any ill Consequences which may attend the Postponing the Consideration of the said bill a this Time, will not lie at the Door of this House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Account of the Cloathing, *&c.* sent to *Albany* for the *New-England* Troops, and others in his Majesty's Service, in Pursuance of a Vote of the last Assembly on the Twenty-ninth of *September*, was laid before the House and read, and is as follows, *viz.*

October 28.

1755.	BOUGHT of Joseph Morris 1745 Yards of Halfthicks, at 2*s.* 3*d.*		£ 196	6	3
	Of *William Fisher* 296 Yards, at 2*s.* 3*d.*	£ 33 6 0			
	Of Ditto, 134 Yards of Penistones, at 2*s.* 6*d.*	16 15 0	50	1	0
November 6.	Of *Frederick Maus* 26 Dozen and an Half of Stockings, at 29*s.* 6 *d.*		65	11	9
11.	Of Ditto, 352 Pair Ditto, at 4*s.* 1 *d.* Halfpenny,		72	12	0
	Of *Daniel Etter* 330 Pair Ditto, at 4 *s.* 2 *d.*		68	15	0
	And for Horse-hire,		0	10	0

Of *Alexander Rannald* 332 Pair Mittens, at 1 *s.* 6 *d.*					24	18	0
Paid Cash for Thread, and for making the Waist-Coats,					0	6	6
large,					0	10	0
large,					0	16	0
Ditto for Porterage, Cooperage, and other small Charges,					0	17	6
Ditto to Taylors and Women, for making Waistcoats (exclusive of what was done *gratis*)					16	17	2½
				£	497	5	2½
Of the above, paid by the Speaker,	25	4	0				
	75	14	3				
	69	5	0	£	170	3	3
Ditto paid by *B. Franklin*,							
To *Maus*, for Stockings,	61	17	6				
To the Makers of Waistcoats,	16	17	2½				
For a Case, Porterage, *&c.*	1	7	6	£	80	2	2½
				£	250	5	5½

The House approved of the foregoing Disbursements, and

Resolved, That this Assembly will make Provisions for the Re-payment of the same, agreeable to the Minute of the last Assembly on the Twenty-ninth of *September* last.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had no Objection to the proposed Time of Adjournment.

It being moved, that a Number of our Friendly *Indians* are now settled at *Conestogoe*, and in Want of Necessaries for their Subsistance.

Resolved, That this House will allow such reasonable Expences as the Members for the County of *Lancaster* shall be put to, in maintaining the said *Indians*.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition from *William Moore*, and others, of *Chester* County, the Address from An-

thony Morris, and others, of the People called *Quakers*, and the Representation from *William Plumsted*, and others, of the City of *Philadelphia*, being again read and considered;

Resolved, That the said Report be entered on the Minutes of this House.

And it accordingly follows in these Words, viz.

THE Committee have considered the several Papers referred to them by the House, and are of Opinion, that though it be the undoubted Right of the Freemen of the Province not only to petition but even to advise their Representatives on suitable Occasions, yet their Applications to the House, of whatever Kind, ought to be respectful, decent, pertinent, and founded in Truth.

That the Petition from *William Moore*, and Thirty-five others, Inhabitants of *Chester* County, dated the Third Instant, the Day of our first Meeting for Business after the Election, and before the House had entered on any Business, as it supposes that the House keeps up unnecessary Disputes with the Governor, when as yet there were none begun; and insinuates, that the Defence of the Province is neglected by the Assembly, and neglected from conscientious Scruples in the Members, is founded in Mistake and Misapprehension of Facts and Circumstances, and so far improper to be presented to the House.

That the Petition, entituled, *An Address of some of the People called* Quakers, *in Behalf of themselves and others*, signed by *Anthony Morris*, and Twenty-two others, so far as it engages for any more then themselves, and as it insinuates that many will be under the Necessity of suffering, rather than consenting to the Payment of Money to be raised and put into the Hands of Commissioners, who may apply it to Purposes inconsistent with the peaceable Testimony they profess and have borne to the World, appears to us (however decent the Language may be in respect to the House) assuming a greater Right than they were invested with, and an Indication that they had not duly considered what has been heretofore transacted in the Assemblies of this Province, particularly in relation to the Act for granting *Two Thousand Pounds* for the Queen's Use, passed the Year 1711, and is therefore an unadvised and indiscreet Application to the House at this Time.

That the Representation from *William Plumstead*, and One Hundred Thirty-three others, of the *principal Inhabitants*, (as they stile themselves) *a great Part of them* not *Freeholders*, many of them *Strangers or obscure Persons*, and some of them *under Age*, who may be supposed but imperfectly acquainted with the general Interests of the Province, or with the true State of Public Affairs, as it charges the House with not having a proper Concern for the Lives of the People of the Province, and dictates in a haughty peremptory Manner to the Representative Body of the whole People, what Laws to make, and to which the Preference should be given, and threatens to force a Compliance by the Power of Numbers if its Commands are not obeyed, is a Paper extremely presuming, indecent, insolent, and improper to be presented to this House. And we are farther of Opinion, that the Mayor of the City of *Philadelphia*, by becoming a Promotor and Ringleader of such an Insult on this Part of the Government, and by his Authority, Arts and Influence, drawing in so many indiscreet or unwary Persons to be Partakers with him therein, when he ought rather to have been careful in preserving good Order, hath exceedingly misbehaved himself, and failed greatly in the Duty of his Station.

On the Whole, the Committee think that the said Papers ought to be rejected. But whether at a Time, when the House has such weighty and important Affairs under Consideration, it will be proper to spend Time in taking any farther Notice of them, or the Promoters of any of them, is, with the rest, humbly submitted to the House."

November 14, 1755.

James Pemberton, *William Callender*, *Joseph Gibbons* and *Peter Worral* dissent to that Part of the Report which relates to *Anthony Morris*, and others, of the People called *Quakers*.

Then the House adjourned to the First Day of the Month called *March* next.

APPENDIX *to the* VOTES *of* ASSEMBLY, *from* November 3, *to* December 3, 1755.

The following is the Draught *of the prepared* ANSWER *to the* GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE *of the Twenty-second of* November, *relating to the Bill for granting* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, which Answer was not sent up, but laid aside at that Time for the Reasons given in the Report of the Committee on said Message.*

A MESSAGE to the GOVERNOR from the ASSEMBLY.

May it please the Governor,

IF, after the Experience we have had of our Governor, we could be astonished at any Thing that comes from him, we should be so at his Message of the Twenty-second Instant, in which, without the least Remorse or Shame, he sums up and renews all his former groundless Charges and Calumnies against the good People of this Province, and their Representatives in Assembly, though they have been so repeatedly, fully and publicly refuted.

They have been so fully refuted, that we think it now needless to do more than refer to our former Answers of *May* 17, *August* 8, *August* 19, *September* 29, &c. &c. and relying on the Justice of our Cause, and the Discernment of those who are to judge of it, shall not waste Time in repeating here those Answers.

What the Governor tells us of its being the established Mode for the Crown either to approve or reject the Whole of any Act; and of the Risk of losing so important an Act on Account of the Clause relating to the Taxation of the Proprietaries, appears to us mere Sophistry and Amusement. The Clause is a conditional or alternative Clause, common in Acts; and whether the Proprietary Estate be taxed or exempted, it will truly be, as we have said, in Pursuance of the Act, and by Virtue of the Act itself. In the very same Bill is another Clause of the same alternative Kind, to which the Governor himself makes no Objection: It is provided, that in Case the four Years Tax falls short of sinking the *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, an additional Tax shall be laid on the People to make good the Deficiency; and if the Money raised exceeds that Sum, the Overplus shall be disposed by a future Act. The Governor may as well tell us, that "one Part of this Clause cannot be approved without rejecting the other; for that the People are to suffer an additional Tax if the four yearly Taxes are not sufficient; but if sufficient, then they are to be exempted from any such additional Tax; if they must pay the additional Tax, the Exemption is rejected; and if they are exempted, the Obligation to pay the additional Tax is rejected; and therefore, to prevent this Perplexity, we should divide this Clause likewise into two separate Bills."

What Difference there is in the Nature of these Clauses, or in the Form, we cannot conceive, excepting that in one the Proprietary is named, and in the other the People: In one the Exemption, if any, is to be declared by the Crown; in the other it arises from the Sufficiency of the four Years Tax. So that, notwithstanding all the Dust the Governor attempts to raise, it still appears clear to us, that the Bill we proposed is entirely free of the Objections he makes to it, and the Mode of Submitting to His Majesty's Determination more proper than that he proposes, and as safe for the rest of the Bill, as well as for the pretended Rights of the Proprietary; that his Commission has no such Prohibition in it as he affects to find there; and that we cannot admit of Amendments to a Money Bill like this; Amendments not founded in Reason, Justice or Equity, but in the arbitrary Pleasure of a Governor, without betraying the Trust reposed in us by our Constituents, and giving up their just Rights as Freeborn Subjects of *England*.

The Governor is pleased to tell us, "The Constitution of this Province is founded on "certain Royal and Proprietary Charters." It is true, and one of those Charters expressly says, "That the Assemblies of this Province shall have Power to chuse a Speaker, and other their Officers; and shall be Judges of the Qualifications and Elections of their own Members; sit upon their own Adjournments; appoint Committees; prepare Bills, in order to pass into Laws; impeach Criminals, and redress Grievances; and shall have ALL OTHER Powers and Privileges of an Assembly, according to the Rights of the Freeborn Subjects of *England*, and as is usual in ANY of the King's Plantations in *America*. "These very Words are also to be found in a Law of the Province, enacted in the Fourth of QUEEN ANNE, and to this Day in Force. That the "Freeborn Subjects of *England*" have a Right to grant Money by their Representatives in Parliament, in Bills that shall suffer no Amendment, the Governor does not deny; nor that it is usual in any of the King's Plantations in *America*: If therefore the Freeborn Subjects of *England* have this Right, we have it by our Charter, and our Laws. And if we had it not by our Charter and Laws, we should nevertheless have it; for the Freeborn Subjects of *England* do not lose their essential

Rights by removing into the King's Plantations, extending the *British* Dominions at the Hazard of their Lives and Fortunes, and encreasing the Power, Wealth and Commerce of their Mother Country; they have, on the contrary, particular Privileges justly granted and added to their native Rights, for their Encouragement in so useful and meritorious an Undertaking.

In the Governor's Message of *August* 12, to the late Assembly, he himself says, that by the Royal Charter the Powers of an Assembly were to be *consonant* to the Laws and Constitution of *England*, and would have them confined to that; but now he tells us, that our Constitution is *no way similar* to that of *England.* We think, however, that it will appear by the expressed as well as implied Powers of an Assembly in the *above Extract* from our Charter and Laws, that our House of Representatives is far from being *no way similar* to a *British* House of Commons in its Form and Constitution, whatever it may be in the Knowledge, Abilities and Dignity of its Members. In one Thing, indeed, it is our Misfortune, that our Constitution differs from that of *England.* The King has a natural Connection with his Subjects. The Crown descends to his Posterity; and the more his People prosper and flourish, the greater is the Power, Wealth, Strength and Security of his Family and Descendants. But Plantation Governors are frequently transient Persons, of broken Fortunes, greedy of Money, without any Regard to the People, or natural Concern for their Interests, often their Enemies, and endeavouring not only to oppress but defame them, and render them obnoxious to their Sovereign, and odious to their Fellow-Subjects.—Our present Governor not only denies us the Privileges of an *English* Constitution, but would, as far as in his Power, introduce a *French* one, by reducing our Assemblies to the Insignificance of their Parliaments, incapable of making Laws, but by Direction, or of qualifying their own Gifts and Grants, and only allowed to register his Edicts. He would even introduce a worse; he requires us to defent our Country, but will not permit us to raise the Means, unless we will give up some of those Liberties that make the Country worth defending; this is demanding *Brick without Straw*, and is so far *similar* to the *Egyptian* Constitution. He has got us indeed into *similar* Circumstances with the poor *Egyptians*, and takes the same Advantage of our Distress; for as they were to perish by Famine, so he tells us we must by the Sword, unless we will become Servants to our *Pharoah*, and make him an *absolute* Lord, as he is pleased to stile himself *absolute Proprietary.*

We agree with the Governor, that the being born or bred in any Country does not necessarily secure the Affections or Esteem of the People of that Country to the Person, nor the Affection of the Person to the Country. The Governor himself may be an Instance of both Cases. He was born, it is true, in a neighboring Province; but, it is said, he has never shewn more Love for his own Country than he has for ours; and that the People there place him very little higher in their Esteem than we do——We think the Governor can make no Comparison of himself with his immediate Predecessor that will not be to his own Disadvantage. Whatever Differences our Assemblies had with that Gentleman, they were small compared with those that now subsist, and he conducted them with a Degree of Tenderness for his Country. But how much soever the People were at that Time dissatisfied with some Particulars in his Administration, we acknowledge that our present Governor has given us abundant Reason to regret the Change.

"Upon the Whole (the Governor is pleased to say) it appears clear to me, that you never intended any of your Bills should pass for raising Money to defent the Province;" and this, he adds, "seems now to be placed beyond Dispute, since those People, under whose Influence you are chiefly known to be, *are said* to have declared publicly to you that they would sooner suffer than pay towards such Purposes." Not to mention the Unfairness of ascribing to a whole People the Indiscretion of a Petition from a very few Persons, the Governor himself must own, that we are not under the Influence he supposes, when we assure him, as we can truly, that there were several more Votes for the Measure opposed by that Petition after receiving it than before.—But however inconsistently the Governor can charge us with taking Advantage of the People's (that is our own) Distress, to arrogate Powers which we ought not to have; and however uncharitably he may judge of our Intentions, we can with humble Confidence appeal to a more upright and more discerning Judge, the Searcher of all Hearts, that our Intentions corresponded perfectly with our Actions, and that we sincerely desired, and intended, to give the Money we offered.

What those, "many other Ways of granting Money" are, "to which the Governor has no Objection," we must own ourselves totally ignorant; as well as what the other Bill may be "that he shall think consistent with his Duty to pass." He thinks it inconsistent with his Duty to pass any Bill contrary to his Instructions from the Proprietary, and those (like the Instructions of the President and Council of the North, mentioned by Lord *Coke*, IVth Inst. P. 246) are to us impenetrable Secrets. That great Lawyer's Remark on Governing by such Instructions, is truly just, *viz. Misera est Servitus, ubi Jus est vagum aut incognitum.* Wretched is the Slavery, where Law is either uncertain or unknown. It is vain for us therefore to look out for other Ways of raising Money, or to form other Bills: Here we must rest till his Majesty shall graciously please to relieve us; since with the Governor we can no otherwise hope to end our unhappy Disputes, than by submitting to one Part or the other of the miserable Alternative he mentions, either not to have a "Privilege worth disputing about, or be deprived of a Country to dispute it in."

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, the House met accordingly.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them, and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

It being moved, that the Clerk of this House would be necessarily absent for some Days, with *Benjamin Franklin*, one of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, granted to the King's Use, who is at this Time on the Frontiers, his Absence was excused.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait on the Governor, with the Message of Yesternight, report, that they delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he should send a Message to the House this Morning, and as what he should communicate to them was of great Importance, they might, if they thought proper, either immediately proceed upon the Consideration of it, or wait till there should be a fuller House; and that he should send down a Copy of the Writs by which the House were summoned.

A Letter from *John Armstrong*, dated at *York*, *January* 30, 1756, to *John* and *James Wright*, inclosing sundry Letters from *Carlisle*, dated the 28th and 29th of last Month, giving an Account of divers Persons being murdered and scalped, and others taken Prisoners, by the *Indians*, at the Settlements on *Juniata*, were laid before the House and read.

The House sat till after One o'Clock, and not hearing from the Governor, adjourned till Three O'Clock, P. M.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Copy of the Writs by which the House was summoned also a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers therein referred to, some of which he said contained Matters that were in their Nature secret, and which the Governor desired might be kept as such by the House.

The Message from the Governor was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'AS the Season for Military Preparations is far advanced, I judged it necessary, as soon as the Business I was engaged in with the Commissioners upon the Frontiers would admit of my Attendance in Town, to call you together to consider of the Plan of Operations concerted in the late Council of War at *New-York*, for the Security of his Majesty's Dominions on this Continent. I have directed the Secretary to lay the Plan before you, but as it is in its Nature secret, and the Execution of it may in some Measure be frustrated, if it should be divulged, I must recommend it to you not to suffer any Part of it to transpire.

The many Encroachments made by the *French* upon his Majesty's Territories, contrary to the Faith of Treaties, and in the Times of profound Peace; the Measures they have taken to secure the Possession of the Countries they have seized, and to disturb us in the Enjoyment of the narrow Limits which they would prescribe to us, sufficiently shew what we are to expect from those restless and ambitious People, if we do not, by a united vigorous and steady Exertion of our Strength, dislodge them from those Encroachments, and confine them within their own just Bounds: And this I am persuaded you will find the best and most effectual Way of securing the Inhabitants of this and the other Colonies against the cruel Insults of them and their savage Allies.—— I must therefore recommend it to you, to grant such Supplies as may enable me to furnish what is expected from this Province towards the general Service. As you are sensible our Success will very much depend upon our being early in Motion, I make no Doubt you will use the greatest Diligence and Dispatch in whatever Measures your Zeal for the Public Cause may induce you to take upon the present Occasion.

Since the last Session, every Thing has been done that the Time would admit for the Defence and Security of the Province, and I have the Satisfaction to tell you, that a Chain of Forts and Block-houses, extending from the River *Delaware*, along the *Kittatinny* Hills, to the *Maryland* Line, is now almost complete. They are placed at convenient Distances from each other, and at the most important Passes through the Mountains, and are garrisoned with Companies and Detachments, all in the Pay of the Province, from Seventy-five to Twenty Men each, according to the Situation and Importance of the Places; and if the Officers and Men, posted there, do their Duty, I believe they will prove a sufficient Protection to the Inhabitants against such Parties as have hitherto appeared upon our Borders.

I have also directed the Secretary to lay before you the Minutes of the several Conferences held with the *Indians* at

Carlisle, and other Papers relating to *Indian* Affairs; together with a Letter I lately received from *Scarroyady*, and *Andrew Montour*, who were sent by me on a Message from this Government to the *Six Nations*, and to the *Indians* living on the *Susquehanna*, by which it appears that the Bulk of the *Indians* on that River are in the *French* Interest, and seem determined not to hearken to any Thing the *Six Nations* may say to them in our Behalf. The Heads of these Nations have been convened by the timely Care and Orders of General *Shirley*, and are now met in Council to treat on these and other Matters. I am informed they greatly disapprove of the Conduct of the *Delawares* and *Shawnese*, and seem inclinable to chastise them for taking up the Hatchet against us; and I am in great Hopes that the Warmth with which General *Shirley* hath recommended this Matter to them, may induce them, to act vigorously for us on this Occasion.

Philadelphia, February 4, 1756.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Part of the Papers send down with the foregoing Message were read and the Remainder was referred to To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That the said Papers be lodged in the Hands of the Speaker; and that the Members be careful not to divulge any Part of the Contents of them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of Yesternight was again read, and considered, with the Papers therein referred to, which are severally entituled as follow, *viz.*

Copy of Minutes of Council held at Carlisle, Lancaster, &c. January 1756, *and Treaty with the* Indians *at* Carlisle, &c.

Copy of General Shirley's *Letter to Major General* Johnson, *dated* New-York, December 7, 1755.

Copy of the Speech of General Shirley *to the* Indians *of the* Six Nations.

Instructions from Governor Morris *to* Scarroyady, *and* Andrew Montour, *containing his Speech to the* Six Nations, November 13, 1755.

Copy of a Letter from Scarroyady *and* Andrew Montour *to Governor* Morris, *dated* Onotiquage, January 4*th and* 5*th*, 1756.

Copy of Minutes of Council of War held at New-York, December 12, 1755.

Proportion of the 10,000 *Men proposed to be raised for the* Crown-Point *Expedition.*

General Shirley's *Proposals for Measures to be taken by the Western Governments, from* Pennsylvania *to* South-Carolina, *inclusive.*

Letter from Governor Dinwiddie *to Governor* Morris, *dated* Williamsburg, January 2, 1756.

Letters from Governor Hardy *to Governor* Morris, *dated* New-York, January 12, 1756.

Letter from Governor Sharpe *to Governor* Morris, *dated* Annapolis, January 24, 1756.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *West-Caln* Township, in the County of *Chester*, representing the great Abuses committed by Persons who retail spirituous Liquors without Licence, tending to the Corruption of Youth, Servants and others, and praying for a more effectual Law to prevent the same, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, P. M.

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered, together with several Papers therein referred to, and, after some Time spent therein, the further Consideration thereof was referred to To-morrow Morning.

An Account from *Hannah Boyd*, for Entertainment and Necessaries supplied to *Andrew Montour's* Wife and Children, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Account from the Overseers of the Poor of the City of *Philadelphia*, for the Maintenance of sundry Soldiers Wives and Children, belonging to the late General *Braddock's* Army (by which it appeared, that the said Overseers had paid on the above Account the Sum of *One Hundred* and *Twenty Pounds Twelve Shililngs* and *Ten-pence Halfpenny*, for which they pray an Allowance of *Ten per Cent* Commission; and that there was a Balance of *Eight Pounds Eight Shillings*, in their Hands due to the Province) was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Governor's Message and it being observed, that the Letter from Governor *Hardy*, sent down with the said Message, mentioned an Information which General *Johnson* had received from a Smith residing among the *Senecas*, of that Nation's complaining that some of their Warriors were killed and scalped by our Inhabitants at *Conewago* in this Province.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *John Hughes* wait upon the Governor, and request he would inform the House if he hath made Enquiry whether there be any Grounds for the said Complaint of the *Senecas*, and that he would be pleased to furnish the House with a Copy of his Answer to Governor *Hardy* thereupon.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that upon the Receipt of the Letter from Governor *Hardy* he communicated the same to the Council, and also wrote a Letter to *Conrad Weiser* to make Enquiry of the *Indians* remaining in this Province, especially among the *Senecas*, and to take every other Method in his Power to inform himself what Foundation there is for the said Complaint, from whom he had as yet received no Answer; but that he would furnish the House with a Copy of his Answer to Governor *Hardy* also of what he wrote to General *Johnson* upon that Head, as soon as he could get them transcribed.

The Gentlemen also brought down from the Governor, a Letter from the Governor of *New-York*, dated *January* 30, 1756, with a Copy of sundry Resolves of the Assembly of that Colony, on the Twenty-eighth of *January*, 1756, which were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

John Smith, returned a Representative for the County of *Cumberland*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualification by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Governor's Message, and, after a considerable Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, and other Parts of the Province, was presented to the House and read, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in Assembly met,

The PETITION of sundry of the Inhabitants of the said Province.

Humbly sheweth,

"THAT by the Laws of our Mother Country, and this Province, every Master and Owner of Apprentices and Servants, has an undoubted Right to the Labour and Service of the former, and a just and legal Property in the latter, such as he cannot, or ought not to be deprived of, but by an impartial Hearing and fair Trial by the Laws of his Country: That upon the Labour and Service of these Servants and Apprentices depends not only the Carrying on of our respective Trades, and the Cultivation of our Lands, but also the Subsistence and Support of the Families of many of the Inhabitants of this Province: That such are the present Circumstances of this Colony, that the Inhabitants being deprived of the Labour and Service of their Servants, cannot, by any Possibility, supply themselves with Persons to carry on their Trades and Businesses, so absolutely necessary for their own Subsistence and the Public Utility: That notwithstanding this incontestable Right of the Masters and Owners of Apprentices and Servants, the Servants and Apprentices of your Petitioners, and of many others the Inhabitants of this Province, have been unjustly and illegally taken, and yet are detained from us by certain Recruiting Officers, under a Pretence of inlisting them as Volunteers into his Majesty's Service: That this is a growing and increasing Mischief, the said Officers continuing daily to inlist, take and detain, all Servants and Apprentices that they can find or procure: That your Petitioners humbly conceive, that these Practices are greatly oppressive to Individuals, preventive of the Cultivation of our Lands, destructive to our Trade, introductive of Beggary and Want among the poorer Sort of People, against the Laws of our Mother Country and this Constitution, and directly inconsistent with the Rights and Privileges of a free People. Therefore your Petitioners, in Behalf of themselves, and others the Inhabitants of this Province, in this Particular aggrieved, intreat their Representatives, in Assembly met, to take these unconstitutional and arbitrary Invasions of our Rights and Properties into their prudent Consideration, to enquire into our Aggrievances, and administer such Relief in the Premises, as to them in their Wisdom shall seem most convenient; and your Petitioners, *&c.*"

Ordered to lie on the Table.

An Account from *John M'Dowell*, for Sundries furnished the Road-Cutters; also several other Accounts relating to the *Ohio* Road, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered.

The House taking the Petition relating to the Inlistment of Servants and Apprentices into Consideration,

Ordered, That *Richrad Pearn*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Wright*, *John Wright*, *John Smith*, *Francis Parvin* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Address to the Governor, representing the great Inconveniences and Hardships the Inhabitants of this Province labour under by Reason of the Inlistment of Servants.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, according to their Adjournment.

Sundry Letters from the Agents were laid before the House by the Commitee of Correspondence, and read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Address to the Governor, reported, that they had made some Progress therein, and should be ready to report the same some Time To-morrow.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee not being ready to report the Draught of an Address to the Governor, relating to the Inlistment of Servants, the same was referred to the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Address to the Governor, relating to the Inlistment of Servants, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

An Account from *Samuel Neave*, for Goods delivered to *Conrad Weiser* for the Use of the *Indians*, amounting to *Sixty-six Pounds Twelve Shillings* and *Nine-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Address to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable *ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS*, *Esq;* Lieutenant Governor of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, *&c.*

The ADDRESS of the Representatives *of the Freemen of the said Province in* General Assembly *met.*

May it please the Governor,

THE House being informed, by Petition from the Masters, that a great Number of bought Servants are lately inlisted by the Recruiting Officers now in this Province, and clandestinely or by open Force conveyed away, to the very great Oppression of the said Masters, and Injury to the Province; we beg Leave to lay this Grievance before the Governor.

We presume, that no one Colony on the Continent has afforded more free Recruits to the King's Forces than *Pennsylvania;* Men have been raised here in great Numbers for *Shirley's* and *Pepperell's* Regiment, for *Halket's* and *Dunbar's*, for the *New-York* and *Carolina* Independent Companies, for *Nova-Scotia*, and even for the *West-India* Islands. By this, and the Necessity we are under of keeping up a large Body of Men to defend our own extensive Frontiers, we are drained of our hired Labourers; and as this Province has but few Slaves, we are now obliged to depend principally upon our Servants to assist us in tilling our Lands. If these are taken from us, we are at a Loss to conceive how the Provisions that may be expected out of this Province another Year, for the Support of the King's Armies, are to be raised.

We conceive, that this Province could not possibly have furnished the great Numbers of Men and Quantity of Provisions it has done for the King's Service, had it not been for our constant Practice of importing and purchasing Servants to assist us in our Labour. Many of these, when they become free, settle among us, raise Families, add to the Number of our People, and cultivate more Land; and many others who do not so settle are ready and fit to take Arms when the Crown calls for Soldiers. But if the Possession of a bought Servant, after Purchase made, is thus rendered precarious, and he may at any Time be taken away from his Master at the Pleasure of a Recruiting Officer, perhaps when most wanted, in the Midst of Harvest or of Seed-time, or in any other Hurry of Business, when another cannot be provided to supply his Place, the Purchase, and of Course the Importation, of Servants will be discouraged, and the People driven to the Necessity of providing themselves with *Negro* Slaves, as the Property in them and their Service seems at present more secure. Thus the Growth of the Country by Increase of white Inhabitants will be prevented, the Province weakened rather than strengthened (as every Slave may be reckoned a domestick Enemy) one great and constant Source of Recruits be in a great Measure cut off, and *Pennsylvania* soon be unable to afford more Men for the King's Service, than the Slave Colonies now do.

The Injury complained of extends not only to those whose Servants are actually inlisted, but even to those whose Servants are not inlisted; since they must humour them in every Thing, lest they should be provoked to inlist, which they daily threaten in Case they are disobliged; and grow idle, neglectful, insolent and mutinous, and occasion many Disorders in the Families they belong to. Besides, while this Practice continues, many leave their Masters on Pretence of going to inlist, and not being pursued, as their Masters are discouraged by the Difficulty of recovering them, they often go quite off without inlisting, so that the Master is injured, and no Service arises to the King.

That Burdens may be chearfully borne by the Subject for the Honour of the Prince, or the Public Welfare, we apprehend they ought to be equitably laid. But this Inlisting of Servants is a most severe, unequal and oppressive Tax on Particulars, often falling on People in low Circumstances, who have been put to great Difficulties in raising Money to buy a Servant or two to assist in working their Plantations; and losing those Servants, they are unable to buy others: Or, if they have bought them on Credit, are unable to pay, sued for the Money, and ruined.

We beg Leave farther to add, that we conceive the Inhabitants of this Province have a legal Property in the Time and Service of the Servants brought into *America*, and purchased here under Acts of Parliament, or becoming Servants by our own Laws. That they have as true and as just a Property in the Servant bought, as they had before in the Money with which he was purchased. That the taking the Servants from us, either by open Force or private Practice, is a Violation of that Property and our Rights, a manifest and grievous Injustice and Oppression. And that the Magistrates, who have refused to assist the Masters with the Civil Authority in recovering their Servants, have egregiously failed in Point of Duty.

We therefore request the Governor, that he would be pleased to acquaint General *Shirley* with these Proceedings of the Officers under his Command. We know the Practice is contrary to his Judgment, having now before us his Disapprobation of it, expressed in very strong Terms, under his Hand, of which we send a Copy herewith to the Governor. We have therefore great Reason to hope, that at the Governor's Instance, he will do the People of this Province strict Justice, by causing an immediate Restitution to be made of all the Servants taken from us under Colour of his Authority; and effectually discourage the Practice for the future.

We farther request, that the Governor would issue his Proclamation, strictly charging all Magistrates and Officers, Civil and Military, to be aiding and assisting to the Inhabitants in securing or recovering their Servants when any Attempts shall be made to take them away."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Orderd, That *Joseph Stretch*, *Joseph Fox*, *Griffith Owen*, *Thomas Cummings*, *James Webb*, *John Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the following Extract from Major General *Shirley's* Letter to Colonel *Thomas Dunbar;* dated from the Camp of *Oswego*, *September* 19, 1755, *viz.*

Upon the Advices I have received since my last to you from Gentlemen of the greatest Zeal for his Majesty's Service, as well as the best Judges of it, in *Pennsylvania* and the other Western Colonies, I am convinced, that the Inlisting of Apprentices and indented Servants there will greatly disserve his Interest, as well as be, in most Cases, grievous to the Subject; and would therefore recommend it to you, in the strongest Manner, to avoid doing it: It is what I have observed most strictly in recruiting for my own Regiment, not only within my own Government, but in all the other Colonies where my Officers have been sent upon that Service; and I desire you will order the Officers of your own and the late Sir *Peter Halket's* Regiments, as also those of the Independent Companies, to do the same in their Recruiting."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Address of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Representation from *John Baptiste Galerm*, one of the *French* Neutrals now in this Province, setting forth the Case of the said Neutrals, was laid before the House and read, and is as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable the ASSEMBLY of the Province of *Pennsylvania.*

The CASE of the French *Neutrals, lately arrived, and now in the said Province, humbly represented by* John Baptiste Galerm, *one of the said People.*

ABOUT the Year 1713, when *Annapolis Royal* was taken from the *French*, our Fathers being then settled on the Bay of *Fundy*, upon the Surrender of that Country to the *English*, had, by Virtue of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, one Year granted them to remove with their Effects; but not being willing to lose the Fruit of so many Years Labour, they chose rather to remain there, and become Subjects of *Great-Britain*, on Condition that they might be exempted from bearing Arms against *France* (as most of them having near Relations and Friends amongst the *French*, which they might have destroyed with their own Hands, had they consented to bear Arms against them). This Request they always understood to be granted, on their taking the Oath of Fidelity to her late Majesty QUEEN ANNE; which Oath of Fidelity was by us, about Twenty-seven Years ago, renewed to his Majesty KING GEORGE by General *Philipse*, who then allowed us an Exemption of bearing Arms against *France;* which Exemption, till lately, when we were told to the contrary, we always thought was approved of by the King. Our Oath of Fidelity, we that are brought into this Province, as well as those who are carried into the neighbouring Provinces, have always inviolably observed, and have, on all Occasions, been willing to afford all the Assistance in our Power to his Majesty's Governors in erecting Forts, making Roads, Bridges, &c. and providing provisions for his Majesty's Service, as is known to the several Governors and Officers that have commanded in his Majesty's Province of *Nova-Scotia;* and this notwithstanding the repeated Solicitations, Threats and Abuses which we have continually more or less suffered from the *French* and the *French Indians* of *Canada* on that Account; particularly about Ten Years ago, when Five Hundred *French* came to our Settlements, intending to attack *Annapolis Royal*, which, had their Intention succeeded, might have made them Masters of all *Nova-Scotia*, it being the only Place of Strength then in that Province, they earnestly solicited us to join with and aid them therein, but we persisting in our Resolutions of abiding true to our Oath of Fidelity, and absolutely refusing to give them any Assistance, they gave over their Intention, and returned to *Canada*. And about Seven Years past, at the Settling of *Halifax*, a Body of One Hundred and Fifty *Indians* came amongst us, forced some of us from our Habitations, and by Threats and Blows would have compelled us to assist them in way-laying and destroying the *English* then employed in erecting Forts in different Parts of the Country, but we positively refusing, they left us, after having abused us, and made great Havock of our Cattle, &c. I myself was Six Weeks before I wholly recovered from the Blows I received from them at that Time. Almost numberless are the Instances which might be given of the Abuses and Losses we have undergone from the *French Indians* on account of our steady Adherence to our Oath of Fidelity. And yet, notwithstanding our strict Observance thereof, we have not been able to prevent the grievous Calamity which is now come upon us, and which we apprehend to be in a great Measure owing to the unhappy Situation and Conduct of some of our People settled at *Chignecto*, at the Bottom of the Bay of *Fundy*, where the *French*, about Four Years ago, erected a Fort; those who were settled near it, after having had many of their Settlements burnt by the *French*, being too far from *Halifax* and *Annapolis Royal* to expect sufficient Assistance from the *English*, were obliged, as we believe, more through Compulsion and Fear than Inclination, to join with and assist the *French;* which also appears from the Articles of Capitulation agreed on between Colonel *Monckton* and the *French* Commander, at the Delivery of the said Fort to the *English*, which are expressly in the following Words:

"*With regard to the *Acadians*, as they have been forced to take up Arms on Pain of Death, they shall be pardoned for the Part they have been taking."

Notwithstanding this, as these People's Conduct had given just Umbrage to the Government, and created Suspicions, to the Prejudice of our whole Community, we were summoned to appear before the Governor and Council at *Halifax*, where we were required to take the Oath of Allegiance, without any Exception, which we could not comply with, because, as that Government is at present situated, we apprehend we should have been obliged to take up Arms; but were still willing to take the Oath of Fidelity, and give the strongest Assurances of continuing peaceable and faithful to his *Britannic* Majesty, with that Exception. But this, in the present Situation of Affairs, not being satisfactory, we were made Prisoners, and our Estates, both Real and Personal, forfeited for the King's Use; and Vessels being provided, we were some Time after sent off, with most of our Families, and dispersed among the *English* Colonies. The Hurry and Confusion in which we were imbarked, was an aggravating Circumstance attending our Misfortunes; for thereby many, who had lived in Affluence, found themselves deprived of every Necessary, and many Families were separated, Parents from Children, and Children from Parents. Yet, blessed be God, that it was our Lot to be sent to *Pennsylvania*, where our Wants have been relieved, and we have in every Respect been received with Christian Benevolence and Charity. And let me add, that notwithstanding the Suspicions and Fears which many here are possessed of on our account, as though we were a dangerous People, who make little Scruple of breaking their Oaths, Time will manifest that we are not such a People: No, the unhappy Situation which we are now in, is a plain Evidence that this is a false Charge, tending to aggravate the Misfortunes of an already too unhappy People; for had we entertained such pernicious Sentiments, we might easily have prevented our falling into the melancholly Circumstances we are now in, *viz.* Deprived of our Substance, banished from our native Country, and reduced to live by Charity in a strange Land; and this for refusing to take an Oath, which we are firmly persuaded Christianity absolutely forbids us to violate, had we once taken it, and yet an Oath which we could not comply with, without being exposed to plunge our Swords in the Breasts of our near Friends and Relations. We shall, however, as we have hitherto done, submit to what in the present Situation of Affairs may seem necessary, and with Patience and Resignation bear whatever GOD, in the Course of his Providence, shall suffer to come upon us. We shall also think it our Duty to seek and promote the Peace of the Country in which we are transported, and inviolably keep the Oath of Fidelity that we have taken to his gracious Majesty King GEORGE, whom we firmly believe, when fully acquainted with our Faithfulness and Sufferings, will commiserate our unhappy Condition, and order that some Compensation be made us for our Losses.

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*Gentleman's Magazine for July, 1755, Page 332.

And may the Almighty abundantly bless his Honour the Governor, and you the Honourable Assembly of the Province, and the good People of Philadelphia, whose Sympathy, Benevolence and Christian Charity have been, and still are, greatly manifested and extended towards us a poor distressed and afflicted People, is the sincere and earnest Prayer of

JOHN BAPTISTE GALERM."

A List of the Names and Families of the said Neutrals was likewise laid before the House and read.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Case of the *French* Neutrals was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *James Pemberton*, *William Callender*, *Joseph Hamton*, *George Ashbridge* and *James Wright* be a Committee to prepare a Bill for dispersing the said Neutrals into the several Counties of *Philadelphia*, *Bucks*, *Chester* and *Lancaster*, and the Townships thereof.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported on an Account from *John Harris*, of *Peckstone*, which was laid before the House on the Eighteenth of *November* last, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed, amounting to *Ten Pounds Nine Shillings* and *Two-pence*.

To which Report the House agreed.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

A Petition from sundry persons in *Lancaster* County, representing that they had for some Time past kept a Watch on the Frontiers of said County at their own Expence, and praying to be reimbursed by this House; also

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the *Great Cove*, in *Cumberland* County, praying for Assistance in their present distressed Circumstances, were presented to the House and read, and recommended to the Consideration of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The Governor, by *William Peters*, Esq; sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with a Paper therein referred to, which were read, and are as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I agree with you, that the inlisting indented Servants is a great Hardship, and an unequal Burden upon the Inhabitants of this Province, and heartily wish, that some other effectual Method had been taken to complete the Regiments employed upon this Continent, which is a Matter of great Importance at this critical Conjuncture.

When the Recruiting Officers first began to inlist Servants in this City, the Council, while I was upon the Frontier, wrote a Letter to General *Shirley* upon the Head, setting forth the particular Injury it would be to this Province, and desiring his Interposition, a Copy of which Letter I have ordered to be laid before you, and I shall immediately write to him on the same Subject, and send him a Copy of your Address, in which the many Inconveniences attending the taking away of Servants are strongly set forth.

His Majesty has ordered the Regiments now employed in *America* to be augmented, and recruited in these Colonies; and General *Shirley*, by a late Order, has countermanded the One he formerly gave to Colonel *Dunbar*, forbidding the Inlisting of Servants and Apprentices; and the Officers think it their Duty to take all Volunteers that offer, without considering whether they are Servants or not.

Whether the Crown has such a Right to the personal Service of its Subjects as cannot be abridged or taken away by any private Contracts, or whether a Servant regularly indented and imported into the Colonies, under an Act of Parliament, is not by such Indenture deprived of the Power of becoming a Volunteer in his Majesty's Service, are Points of Law that you are sensible have been controverted in this Province ever since the Beginning of the late *Spanish* War, and have never to my Knowledge received an authoritative Determination; and as the Rights of the Crown, as well as the Property of the Subject, will be greatly affected by a Determination of those Points, I cannot take upon me to do it by issuing the Proclamation you propose, which will be extrajudicial, and by no Means obligatory on the Persons concerned.

You will permit me to observe, that though the Magistrates may be appointed by the Government, yet they receive their Authority from the Law, which must be the Rule and Measure of their Conduct; and a Proclamation in the present Case cannot create or vest any new Powers in them. If they refuse or neglect to do the Duties required by Law, there is a Court in the Province has Power to punish them, for such Neglect or Refusal; and if any Subject is or thinks himself injured, the Law and Courts are open, to which he may apply, where his

Right, and that of the Crown, will be properly considered and determined in the ordinary Course of the Law.

Philadelphia, February 13, 1756.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

A LETTER from the President *and* Council *to General* SHIRLEY.

Honoured Sir,

His Honour, Governor *Morris*, being at this Time on a Tour to the Back Parts of this Province, his Council have desired me to apply to you in an Affair which, for some Days past, has thrown the Inhabitants of this City into the greatest Consternation, and if a timey Stop is not put to it, will raise most violent Commotions throughout every Part of the Province. The Officers recruiting here had carefully avoided inlisting indented Servants, in Obedience to the kind Orders General *Braddock*, in his Life-time, and of your Excellency, since the Command of his Majesty's Forces was deservedly conferred upon you, had given them to that Purpose, till about three Days ago, when their Serjeants, in beating up for Volunteers, publicly invited all Servants to inlist in his Majesty's Service, and declared, that they had Instructions from their Superior Officers to do so. Contentions immediately ensued between the Masters of great Numbers of Servants that inlisted and the Serjeants, and their recruiting Parties, and no one can say where it would have ended, if Captain *Hobson* and the rest of the Recruiting Officers, on the Interposition and Request of some of the Magistrates, had not forbid their Serjeants taking any more Servants till your Excellency's Pleasure could be known upon the Occasion. I need not remonstrate to you, who are so well acquainted with the Circumstances of this Province, and know that every Kind of Business here, as well among the Tradesmen and Mechanics as the Planters and Farmers, is chiefly carried on and supported by the Labour of indented Servants; nor what Distress must be brought on the Province in general, if the Inhabitants are deprived of the only Means of subsisting their Families, and contributing their reasonable Quota towards any future Expedition his Majesty may set on Foot on this Continent against his Enemies, nor how much his Service in general will be affected and prejudiced by the Deficiency in the Quantities of Grain, and other Provisions, usually raised in, and I presume expected to be supplied from, this Province, that must necessarily follow our Farmers losing so many of their Servants; especially now after the Loss of the Produce of so much of the Lands in our Back Counties, which are laid waste and deserted by the terrible Slaughter and Havock made amongst the Inhabitants there by the *Indians.*

When I consider the irreparable Calamities that a Measure of this Sort will entail on great Numbers of the Inhabitants of this infant and late flourishing Colony, and call to Mind your known Humanity and Regard for Justice, I cannot doubt but you will be pleased to give Orders to your Officers, recruiting here, against inlisting indented Servants, and for the Restoring to their Masters such as are now detained from them, and am

Philadelphia, *Your Excellency's most humble Servant,*
January 24, 1756, ROBERT STRETTELL, President of the Council."

Ordered, That *James Webb* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, upon urgent Business.

Then the -House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Bill for dispersing the Inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia*, imported into this Province, into the several Counties of *Philadelphia*, *Bucks*, *Chester* and *Lancaster*, and the Townships thereof; and making Provision for the same, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to next *Third-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'His Majesty, sensible of the great Importance it is to the *British* Interest, and to the Success of our Schemes against the *French*, to preserve and improve our Friendship with the *Indians*, has been graciously pleased to order a considerable Present to be sent to *New-York* for the *Six Nations;* and Sir *Charles Hardy*, proposing to go very soon to hold a Meeting with those *Indians*, to distribute among them that Present, with an Addition which he has prevailed on the Assembly of *New-York* to make to it, has recommended it to my Consideration, in the Letter I herewith send you, whether, at this critical Juncture, great Good may not arise from this Province's likewise taking some Notice of them.

The cruel Proofs and daily Experience we have of late had, how much it is in the Power of a few, even of the most inconsiderable, of those People, to do us irreparable Mischiefs when they are disposed to be our enemies, make it needless for me to use any other Arguments to induce you to consider whether it will not be quite proper and necessary for this Province to make some Present now to the *Six Nations*, in order to keep up and strengthen our Alliance with them, and engage them to be more earnest and ready to assist us against these Savages that have done, and are still committing, the Murders and horrid Ravages amongst our Back Inhabitants.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, February 16, 1756.

An Account from *Richard Peters*, Esq; for Cash paid by him for sundry Expresses, amounting to *One Hundred* and *Twenty-four Pounds, Thirteen Shillings* and *Nine-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Bill for dispersing the Inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia*, imported into this Province, into the several Counties of *Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester* and *Lancaster*, and Townships thereof; and making Provision for the same, was read the second time, and the Consideration thereof referred to To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of Yesternight was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

A Petition from *Hans Zimmerman*, of the County of *Lancaster*, setting forth, that he is confined to Goal for sundry Debts owing by him to different Persons, and praying that this House would take such Measures to have him discharged as to their Wisdom shall seem most meet, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered, That the said Petition be rejected.

The House went upon the Consideration of a Bill for dispersing the Neutral *French*, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House resumed the Consideration of the Bill for dispersing the Neutral *French*, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *William White*, of the County of *Cumberland*, with a Recommendation of the same by the Commissioners for laying out the *Ohio* Road, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner being employed as a Waggoner to carry Provisions to the People employed in cutting a Road from *M'Dowell's* Mill to the River *Monongahela*, had the Misfortune to lose one of his Waggon Horses, of the Value of *Ten Pounds*, during the Time he attended said Service, which Loss has reduced the Petitioner to great Hardships, and rendered him in some Measure unable to satisfy his just Debts; the Petitioner therefore most humbly prays, that this House would be pleased to take his Case into Consideration, and grant him such Relief in the Premises as they shall think proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

An Account from *James Brandon*, of the County of *Cumberland*, for the Maintenance of sundry *Indians*, amounting to *Three Pounds Six Shillings* and *Five-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Committee of Accounts reported on sundry Accounts for cutting the Road towards the *Ohio*, produced since the last Settlement, amounting in the Whole to *Twenty-three Pounds Eleven Shillings* and *Eleven-pence;* also on *James Brandon's* Account for Maintenance of *Indians*, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed.—To which Reports the House agreed.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer for *Twenty-six Pounds Eighteen Shillings* and *Four-pence*, payable to *Joseph Armstrong*, who is to pay the said Road-Cutters and *Brandon's* Accounts, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Bill for dispersing the Neutral *French*, and after some Alterations made therein, the same was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

The following Letter, from General *Shirley* to *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq; one of the Members of this House, acknowledging the Receipt of the Cloathing sent as a Present from the Assembly for the Use of the Army about *Albany*, was laid before the House and read, *viz.*

Boston, February 4, 1756.

SIR,

'I WAS favoured with your Letter at *New-York*, dated the 2d of *December*, acquainting me that your Assembly had sent a Present of Thirteen Hundred and Thirty-nine warm Waistcoats, One Thousand Pair of milled Stockings, and Three Hundred and Thirty-two Pair of knit Mittens, for the Comfort of the *New-England* Troops, and others, that might remain in Garrison in that cold Country the ensuing Winter; and desiring I would order a proper Disposition of them, which you supposed even by that Time in the Hands of Mr. *Stevenson* in *Albany*.

It was not 'till a few Days before my leaving *New-York* that I could learn the Certainty of this Cloathing's being actually arrived at *Albany*, and had not Time before my Departure from thence to answer your Letter.

I am now, Sir, to acquaint you, that I have ordered a Distribution of the Cloathing, and to desire the Favour of you to make my Acknowledgments to the Assembly for this second Instance of their public Spirit and Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and the general Good of these Colonies, given by them in the Expedition against *Crown-Point*.

I cannot but hope that so laudable an Example will inspire the other Colonies with the like Spirit, so necessary at this critical Conjuncture for putting a Stop to the Invasions and Devastations of the *French* and their *Indians* within our Borders, and placing the *British* Northern Colonies in a State of Security against the Attempts which, from the Armament sent the last Year from *France*, and their known Designs, we have the utmost Reason to expect they will push this Year; and that it will continue to animate the Government of *Pennnsylvania* in the common Cause, as it hath hitherto done, so highly to their Advantage.

Be pleased likewise to assure them, Sir, that I shall not be wanting in making a just Representation to his Majesty of these Marks of their Zeal for the Service of their King and Country, and doing every Thing in my Power for the Service of the Province.

I am, with Truth and Regard, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY."

Another Letter from General *Shirley*, to *Benjamin Franklin*, informing him that he had taken off the Prohibition which he had formerly given concerning the Inlisting of

Servants and Apprentices, was also laid before the House and read.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of the Seventeenth Instant was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge* and *James Wright* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, reported the same to the House and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Speaker laid before the House a Letter from General *Shirley*, in Answer to the Letter from the President and Council, concerning the Inlistment of Servants, which he informed the House had been put into his Hands by the Secretary.

And the said Letter was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

Boston, *February* 9, 1756.

SIR,

'I HAVE received a Letter of the 24th of *January* last from the President of your Council, relating to the Inlisting of indented Servants into his Majesty's Service. I should be extremely glad to have it in my Power to remove any Thing that can be thought a Hardship on the Province of *Pennsylvania;* but the Restraint I had put upon the Officers inlisting Servants was not taken off til I was convinced by the Complaints of the Officers that his Majesty's Service must suffer, at this very critical Conjuncture, if they were restrained from inlisting such as voluntarily offer themselves; and at present the Number of Men wanting to complete his Majesty's Regiments on this Continent is so great, and the Time so short before they will be wanting for Service, that I can by no Means renew any Order which shall retard the compleating of them.

I cannot conceive that the Distress arising from the Inlisting a few Servants can be any Thing like what the President and Council seem to apprehend; for the Number must be so trifling, in Proportion to the Labourers in your Government, that it can have no visible Effect on the Province in general; and if any peculiar Instances of Hardship should happen to particular Persons thereby, I shall be always willing and ready to consider Circumstances on their being properly represented to me.

My own Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay* is so far from thinking it a Hardship that indented Servants should be allowed to inlist, that they not only chearfully consent to that, but have even impressed great Numbers of indented Servants for the Expedition against *Crown-Point;* and it is the constant Practice to impress them as well as other Inhabitants for garrisoning our Frontier Forts, where they often remain several Years; nor is it uncommon in other Governments to do the same.

I am

Your Honour's most obedient and most humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY."

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for dispersing the Inhabitants of* Nova-Scotia, *imported into this Province, into the several Counties of* Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester *and* Lancaster, *and the Townships thereof, and making Provision for the same,* being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the Governor,

AS Sir *Charles Hardy* does not propose to set out from *New-York*, for the Meeting he intends to hold with the *Six Nations*, till the latter End of next Month, we apprehend no Inconveniences can ensue from our not giving a determinate Answer to the Governor's Message of the Seventeenth Instant, which may be resumed as the Advices we now daily expect to receive from General *Johnson* may render it necessary.

By the Papers and Accounts the Governor has been pleased to lay before us on this Occasion, it appears that great Numbers of *Indians* were expected at the Treaty to be held with the *Six Nations;* and from General *Johnson's* Knowledge and known Abilities in conducting *Indian* Affairs, we may reasonably expect a happy Issue of that Treaty; but whatever it may be, we shall be better able to determine the Part this Province ought to act in this Matter, when *Scarroyady* and *Andrew Montour* return with an Account of the Dispositions of the *Indians* towards us at this critical Conjuncture, and the Result of General *Johnson's* Treaty with the *Six Nations*, which are now very soon expected."

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Gibbons* and *William Peters* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the Bill for dispersing the Neutral *French*, and acquaint him, that the House desire his Concurrence to the said Bill.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, and the Bill for dispersing the *French* Neutrals, reported that they had delivered the same according to Order.

It being moved, that it would not be proper to proceed any farther upon the Business before the House, till the Issue of General *Johnson's* Treaty was known, and some other Intelligence shortly expected was received, it was thereupon

Resolved, That this House will now adjourn to next *Second-day* Week.

Then the House accordingly adjourned to the First Day of the next Month, called *March*.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment, and adjourned to *Ten* o'Clock Tomorrow Morning.

A Bill for continuing an Act, entituled, *An Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits*, was brought in by Order of the House, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

An Account from *John Ross*, of *Blue-Rock*, *Lancaster* County, for the Maintenance of sundry *Indian* settled at *Conestogoe*, amounting to *Nine Pounds Nineteen Shillings* and *Four-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they were of Opinion the Sum of *One Hundred* and *Twenty-four Pounds Fifteen Shillings* was due from the Province to *George Croghan*, which ought to be paid by this House, being the Amount of two Errors in the last Settlement of said *Croghan's* Accounts, in his Favour.—Which Report was agreed to by the House, and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Grubb* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know if he hath as yet come to any Result upon the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, and the Bill for dispersing the *French* Neutrals.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had made no Amendments to the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, thinking the said Bill would be of no Use at this Time; however, if the House thought otherwise, he would take it under his Consideration: And as to the Bill for dispersing the *French* Neutrals, he had laid it once before his Council, and should again, and then he would acquaint the House with his Result upon it.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House sundry Minutes of Council, containing the Conference between the Governor and the *Indians* now in Town, which were read, and ordered to lie on the Table, for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"THE Secretary will lay before you Petitions from a Number of the Inhabitants of this and other Counties, setting forth, that the last Year's Crop of Grain was not so plentiful as usual:—that great Quantities had been destroyed by the *Indians*, and that the Back Inhabitants being drove from their Plantations, the Public would be deprived of the Benefit of the Grain they had put into the Ground. They therefore pray that a Stop may be put to the Exportation of Provisions, in order to prevent a Scarcity, which they are apprehensive there will be, if such a Measure be not taken.

As you come from the different Parts of the Province, you are the best Judges of the Circumstances of the Country in that Particular; and I recommend it to you to consider of this Matter; and if you judge it necessary to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, you will prepare a Bill for that Purpose.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, March 3, 1756.

The Petitions mentioned in the foregoing Message were also read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants of the County of *Chester*, praying that the Constables Fees might be lessened, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Bill for the better Regulation of such Soldiers as are or hereafter may be in the Pay of the Province, was brought in by *Benjamin Franklin*, by the Leave of the House, and read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for dispersing the Neutral *French*, with a verbal Message, that he was ready to pass the same into a Law whenever the House should present it to him for that Purpose.

Ordered, That the said Bill be ingrossed.

The Bill for continuing an Act, entituled, *An Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits*, was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Account of *John Ross*, of *Blue-Rock*, and were of Opinion, that the same ought to be allowed.—To which the House agreed.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Bill for dispersing the *French* Neutrals, being ingrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for continuing an Act, entituled, An Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits*, being read the third time,

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *William Smith* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence, and acquaint him, that the Bill for dispersing the *French* Neutrals is engrossed, and the House desire to know when they shall wait upon him, in order to pass the same into a Law; and request that he would be pleased to appoint some of his Council to join with two Members of this House in comparing the said engrossed Bill with the Original.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor sends down to the House an Account of *Samuel Neave's*, amounting to *Fifty-seven Pounds Five Shillings* and *Six-pence*, for Goods delivered to the *Indians* who were in Town in *August* last; and if the House have any Doubts with regard to the said Account, *Conrad Weiser* and myself are ready to explain the same when called upon by the House for that Purpose."

Then the Secretary withdrew.

And the said Account being read, the House observed that it was the same Account which had been tendered by the Secretary to the last Assembly, and refused by them for Reasons set forth at large on their Minutes, (*vide August* 19, 21, and 22) it was therefore

Resolved, That this House will not allow the said Account, it not being a Debt properly chargeable to the Province.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Joseph Fox* do return the said Account to the Secretary, and acquaint him with the Reasons why the House have disallowed the same.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill for continuing the Excise Act, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he should be ready to receive the House at Eleven o'Clock To-morrow Morning in the Council Chamber, in order to pass the Bill, for dispersing the *French* Neutrals, into a Law, and that he would appoint two of his Council to join the Members of this House in comparing the engrossed Bill with the Original.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *John Hughes* do meet the Members of Council, to compare the said engrossed Bill with the Original.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of Yesterday, relating to an Embargo on Provisions, was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideation.

A Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufactures made thereof, was brought in by Order of the House, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Petition from *West-Caln* Township, in *Chester* County, relating to Tipling-houses, was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, it was referred for farther Consideration, until it shall be known whether the

Governor will give his Assent to the Bill for continuing the Excise Act.

The Petition from sundry Inhabitants of *Chester* County, relating to Constables Fees, was again read, and considered.

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House look upon the Bill now before him for regulating the *Indian* Trade, as a Bill of Importance, and therefore desire he would be pleased to take the same into his Consideration, and let them know his Result thereupon as soon as possible.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that the House should hear from him this Day upon the Bill relating to the *Indian* Trade.

The Gentlemen appointed to meet two Members of the Council, to compare the engrossed Bill with the Original, report, that they had done the same accordingly, and found them to agree.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House, in order to pass the Bill, for dispersing the *French* Neutrals, into a Law."

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *John Hughes* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law after it is passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited on the Governor.

The House being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for dispersing the Inhabitants of* Nova-Scotia, *imported into this Province, into the several Counties of* Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester *and* Lancaster, *and the Townships thereof, and making Provisions for the same;* to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

A Petition from *Matthew Patten*, of *Conegocheague*, in the County of *Cumberland*, praying that the Governor and this House would take some Measures to make good the Losses he has sustained by the *Indians*, was presented to the House and read, and referred to the Consideration of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, report, that the same is done, and that it is deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of *Philadelphia*, and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof, was brought in, by Order of the House, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjouned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of *Philadelphia*, and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City, for defraying the necessary Expences thereof, was read the second time, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nighty Watch, *&c.* and, after some Alterations made therein, the same was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjouned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for the better Regulation of such Soldiers as are, or hereafter may be, in the Pay of this Province, was read the second time, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of* Philadelphia, *and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Joseph James* and *Peter Worral* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Bill for the better Regulation of such Soldiers as are, or hereafter may be, in the Pay of this Province, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nighty Watch, *&c.* reported, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Sundry Accounts from *William M'Dowell*, and others, for Provisions, *&c.* furnished the Persons employed in cutting the *Ohio* Road, were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Bill for the better Regulation of such Soldiers as are, or hereafter may be, in the Pay of the Province, and, after a considerable Time spent therein, it was

Resolved, That the said Bill be committed for Amendment; and that *John Hughes*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Griffith Owen*, *Nathaniel Grubb*, *James Webb*, *John Wright* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee for that Purpose.

Joseph Trotter, *James Pemberton*, *William Peters* and *Peter Worral* dissent to the foregoing Resolve.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of the Fourth Instant, relating to the laying an Embargo on Provisions, was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, and the Bill for continuing the Excise on spirituous Liquors, with sundry proposed Amendments to each of them.

The Secretary informed the House, that his Majesty's Service requiring the Governor's Presence at *New-Castle*, he intended to set out for that Place To-morrow or next Day.

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill sent down this Afternoon, being read, and considered,

Resolved, That this House will adhere to the said Bills, without admitting the Governor's proposed Amendments thereto.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* and *John Hughes* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the following Message, together with the two Bills therein referred to, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE Excise Bill now offered the Governor for his Assent, being free of all Objections as to Royal Instructions, or Acts of Parliament, and the same that has heretofore repeatedly received the Royal Assent; and no Reason appearing to the House why the Change should be made that is proposed by the Governor's Amendment, they therefore unanimously adhere to the Bill, and desire it may receive his Assent as it now stands.

The Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, being an Imitation of the Law for the same Purpose, found so beneficial by long Practice and Experience in the Province of the *Massachusetts*, the House do also adhere to that Bill as it stands; and request the Governor would be pleased to reconsider his Amendments.

Signed by Order of the House,
ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, report, that they had delivered the Message of the House, and the two Bills, according to Order.

A Petition from sundry Inhabitants in the County of *Lancaster*, representing the great Abuses committed by Persons who retail spiritous Liquors without Licence, and praying for a more effectual Law to prevent the same, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Petition from the United Brethren residing at *Bethlehem*, in the County of *Northampton*, praying Leave to bring in a Bill for the Exemption of themselves from the Taxes directed and intended to be levied by the Act for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, on Account of the great Loss the Petitioners have sustained by the Destruction of *Mahoney*, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *William M'Dowell's* and others Accounts, for Sundries furnished towards cutting the *Ohio* Road, that the same had not been charged in the general Account of Expences relating to the said Road, and ought now to be allowed by this House, amounting in the Whole to *Seventy-one Pounds Seventeen Shillings* and *Two-pence Half-penny.* Which Report was agreed to by the House.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufactures made thereof, being read the second time, and sundry Alterations made therein, was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for regulating such Soldiers as are raised, paid, and maintained within this Province, at the Charge of the Crown, out of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use, being altered and amended by the Committee to whom it was committed for Amendment, was read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Abuses in Manufactures made thereof*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The Bill for regulating such Soldiers as are raised, paid, and maintained within this Province, was read the second time; and, after a considerable Debate thereupon, the Question was put, *Whether the said Bill should be transcribed for a third Reading?*

Passed in the Negative.

YEAS.	NAYS.	NAYS.
Joseph Stretch,	*Joseph Trotter,*	*Nathaniel Grubb,*
Joseph Fox,	*James Pemberton,*	*William Peters,*
John Hughes,	*Joshua Morris,*	*Peter Dicks,*
Benjamin Franklin,	*Richard Pearn,*	*Peter Worral,*
Mahlon Kirkbride,	*William Callender,*	*Francis Parvin.*
Griffith Owen,	*Joseph Hamton*	
Derrick Hogeland,	*William Smith,*	
Samuel Brown,	*Thomas Cummings,*	
Calvin Cooper,	*George Ashbridge,*	
James Wright,	*Nathaniel Pennock,*	
James Webb,	*Joseph James,*	
John Wright,	*Joseph Gibbons,*	
William Edmonds.		

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message of the Third Instant, relating to an Embargo on Provisions, was again read, and considered.

Benjamin Franklin, one of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use, represented to the House, that there was an absolute Necessity for some Law to be speedily passed for the better Regulation of the Soldiers in the Pay of the Province, or that otherwise they must be disbanded; and therefore moved, that though the Bills which had already been prepared for that Purpose were not agreeable to the Mind of the House, yet that the House should meet again this Afternoon, in order to consider if some other Measures could not be fallen upon to answer the good End proposed.

And the House taking the said Motion into Consideration, the Question was put, Whether the House should adjourn to next *Second-day?* *Passed in the Negative.*

Then the Question was put, Whether the House should adjourn to next *Second-day* Week? *Passed in the Negative.*

Upon which the Question was put, Whether the House should adjourn to next *Second-day* two Weeks? Which also *Passed in the Negative.*

Whereupon the Speaker adjourned the House to Three o'Clock this Afternoon.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Motion made in the Morning, for some Measures to be fallen upon for the better Regulation of the Soldiers in the Pay of the Province, and, after some Time spent therein,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare and bring in another Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of the Province.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn*, *John Hughes*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Griffith Owen*, *William Smith*, *Nathaniel Grubb*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Webb*, *John Wright* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill pursuant to the foregoing Resolve.

Then the House adjourned to next *Third-day*, at Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

A Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of the Province, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, was read the second time, and, after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, it was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Fifth Day of the Month, called *April*, next.

The Bill, intituled, *An Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of the Province*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

James Pemberton, } Dissentientes.
Peter Worral, }

Ordered, That *John Hughes* and *Benjamin Franklin* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence, and acquaint him with the Time of Adjournment.

Then the House adjourned to the Fifth Day of the next Month, called *April*.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

John Hughes reported, that *Benjamin Franklin* had, on his Way to *Virginia*, delivered the Bill, for regulating the Soldiers in the Pay of this Province, to the Governor at *New-Castle*, and acquainted him with the Time of Adjournment, according to Order.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *John Hughes* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met according to their Adjournment, and are ready to receive any Business he may have to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that the House should hear from him this Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, with Eleven proposed Amendments thereto; also the Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, with one proposed Amendment thereto.

And the said proposed Amendments to the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch being read, and considered, the House agreed to some of them, and in others adhered to the Bill.

The Governor's proposed Amendment to the Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, was likewise read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, it was

Resolved, That the House do adhere to the said Bill without admitting the Governor's proposed Amendment.

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* and *William Callender* do carry up the two aforesaid Bills to the Governor again, and acquaint him with the Determinations of the House thereupon.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had done the same according to Order.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Speaker laid before the House a Copy of the Treaty lately held with the *Indians* of the *Six Nations* by Sir *William Johnson*, which he informed the House he had received from the Secretary, for that Purpose. And the said Treaty being read, was ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, were read, and considered, and after some Time spent therein, the same were referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Sundry Accounts for public Expences were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts, with Directions for them to report thereupon.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, were again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, it was agreed to insert a Clause in the said Bill, to impower the Governor to issue Commissions for holding General Courts Martial. And the said Clause being inserted accordingly,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *John Hughes* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and acquaint him, that the House desire he would be pleased to recede from his proposed Amendments, and pass the said Bill as it now stands; and further, that they enquire when the House may expect to hear from the Governor concerning the Bills now before him.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would again consider the Bill for regulating the Soldiers in the Pay of this Province, and that the House might expect to hear from him this Afternoon on some of the Bills now lying before him.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message of the Third of *March*, relating to an Embargo on Provisions, was again read, and considered, and it being found, upon Enquiry among the Members of the several Counties, that there was not at present much Likelihood of there being a Scarcity of Provisions in the Province, the same was referred to farther Consideration; and in the mean Time the Members are directed to make a particular Enquiry into that Matter against the next Sitting.

The House having sat a considerable Time, and not hearing from the Governor,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* wait upon the Governor, and desire to know if the House may expect his Result this Afternoon upon any of the Bills now before him.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had nothing ready for the Consideration of the House this Afternoon, but he believed he should in the Morning.

The Committee of Accounts reported on the Account of *Samuel Neave*, which was laid before the House on the Tenth of *February* last, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be referred to the Commissioners for disposing of the

Sixty Thousand Pounds granted to the King's Use. To which Report the House agreed; and it was accordingly referred to the said Commissioners.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Motion was made, that the Governor be addressed by this House to suspend declaring War against the *Delawares* and *Shawanese* for some Time longer, there appearing by the Papers laid before the House some Reason to believe that an Accommodation may be brought about with those Nations; and, after a considerable Debate thereupon, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

An Account from the Widow *Heinselman*, for the Maintenance of the *Indian Jonathan Cayenquinloquois's* two Sons, from the Twenty-seveth of *August* 1755, until the 19th of *March* 1756, amounting to *Twenty-seven Pounds* and *Eightpence*, was laid before the House and read.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver; and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufactures made thereof, with a verbal Message, that he adhered to his proposed Amendment to the said Bill.

The Governor likewise sent down the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto, which were read, and considered; to some of which the House agreed, and in others adhered to the Bill.

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor with the said Bill, and inform him which of his Amendments the House have agreed to, and desire that he would be pleased to pass it as it now stands amended.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House sundry Minutes of Council, relating to the *Indians* now in Town, which were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for regulating the Soldiers, *&c.* report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would again take the said Bill into his Consideration.

A Petition from *George Brey*, of *Marlborough* Township, in the County of *Philadelphia*, in Behalf of the said Township, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Overseers of the Township of *Marlborough* aforesaid, have received an Order to make Provision for a certain Number of *French* Neutrals, which (for sundry Reasons mentioned in the Petition) they are not able to comply with; therefore praying that this House would relieve them in the Premises.

Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the Commissioners for dispersing the Neutral *French.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers, &c. with a verbal Message, that he adheres to his proposed Amendments, and desires that the House would appoint a Committee to confer with him upon the same, either this Afternoon, or on *Monday* next, as the House should think proper.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn*, *William Smith*, *Peter Dicks*, *Nathaniel Grubb* and *James Wright* be, with the Speaker, a Committee to confer with the Governor on his proposed Amendments to the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers, *&c.* at Four o'Clock this Afternoon, in the Council Chamber.

Then the House adjourned to next *Third-day*, at Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

Sundry of the People called *Quakers* attending without, and desiring to be admitted, they were accordingly called in, and, by the Leave of the House, they read and presented the following Address, and then withdrew, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met,

The ADDRESS of some of the People called QUAKERS, *residing in the City of* Philadelphia, *on Behalf of themselves, and many others.*

The mournful and desolate Circumstances of our Fellow-Subjects on the Frontiers of this Province, engaging the deep Concern and Sympathy of every Mind capable of considering the Distress and Affliction to which they are now subjected, and the present Conjuncture appearing to us the most critical and important the Inhabitants of this Province have ever known, we hope our Address to you, at this Time, will obtain your serious, weighty, and deliberate Consideration.

We have, some Time past, painfully observed the Measures which have been pursued, and how remarkably, they have been disappointed, and failed of the desirable End of restoring Peace and Tranquillity; and as we are informed that the Governor hath under his Consideration a Declaration of War against those *Indians*, who, contrary to the Faith of their Treaties, and the Friendship they have heretofore manifested to us, have become our open and Cruel Enemies: From the strong Motives of the Fear of God, and Love of Mankind, and especially of our suffering Brethren and Fellow-Christians, we have been constrained to make our Address to the Governor (a Duplicate of which we herewith deliver you) beseeching him to suspend a full Determination of carrying such Measures into Execution, as may render all pacific Measures much more difficult; and as the Station in which you are placed, the Trust committed to you, and the Profession you make of being the Disciples and Followers of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, unite in demanding of your utmost and unwearied Endeavours to be exerted for the Safety, Peace and Prosperity of the People of this Province, we intreat and beseech you, as you tender the Honour of God, the Reputation and Promotion of the Doctrine and fundamental Principles of Christianity, and the Welfare of yourselves, and the People whom you represent, to exert yourselves on this most solemn and important Occasion.

The Records of the several Treaties with these *Indians*, and our Ancestors, our own, and our Neighbours Experience, have fully proved, that though they are savage, and inexpressibly cruel to their Enemies, they are not void of a large Share of natural Understanding; have, in many Cases, clear Sentiments of Justice and Equity, and have, from the first Settlement of this Province, till a few Months past, manifested their Friendship to us; we therefore earnestly desire it may be the Care of all concerned (though not convinced as we are, that War is repugnant to the Doctrine and Principles of the Gospel) to be well assured that our Affairs with these People have been transacted, in every respect, in the most honest, upright, and equitable Manner: The Reflections which the Want of this necessary Care must suggest to every Mind, if a Time of general Desolation should ensue, are too obvious and dreadful to be mentioned, and we are assured that the Consideration thereof hath made a deep Impression on many, who cannot but frequently, in this melancholy Time, remember the emphatic and prophetic Expressions of the wise, worthy, first Proprietor of this Province: "If Friends here keep to God, and in the Justice, Mercy, Equity, and Fear of the Lord, their Enemies will be their Foot-stool; if not, their Heirs, and my Heirs too, will lose all, and Desolation will follow." [WILLIAM PENN'S *Life*, Folio 124.]

That the Motives of Self-interested Views have not determined us to these urgent Addresses, we are ready and willing chearfully to manifest, as there are some among us who will freely assist with their Estates and Persons, to endeavour the regaining the Friendship of our Enemies, and promoting pacific Measures in the same Manner as the unhappy Experience of several of the most martial neighbouring Colonies hath, after long and bloody Wars, testified it must at last, if ever, be obtained; but as any Proposals, or Requests, made by us in our private Capacities, cannot have so much Weight with the Governor, as an Application and Request from you, who represent the Freemen of the Province, and who, though not vested with the executive Powers of the Government, are, both by sacred and civil Obligations, bound to consult and promote its real Welfare, we intreat you to add your Endeavours to ours to effect these necessary and salutary Measures.

Philadelphia, Fourth Month 12, 1756.

To ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq; Lieutenant Governor
and Commander in Chief of the Province of
Pennsylvania, &c.

The humble ADDRESS of some of the People called QUAKERS, *residing in the City of* Philadelphia, *on Behalf of themselves, and many others.*

With Hearts sorely distressed and deeply affected with the Calamities of our Fellow-Subjects, and painfully apprehensive of the inpending Desolation consequent of an *Indian* War, we address the Governor, and earnestly intreat thy favourable Attention, on this solemn and important Conjuncture, in which the Lives and Liberties of the People of this Province are so nearly concerned.

We have, with the most sensible Concern and Pain of Mind, observed the sorrowful Alteration in the State of this late peaceful Province, now become the Theatre of Blood-shed and Rapine, and distressed by the cruel Devastations of a barbarous Enemy, which justly excites the most aggravating

Reflections in every considerate Mind; yet when we consider that all Wars are attended with fatal Consequences, and one with Enemies so savage as those who have now become ours, with Circumstances the most shocking and dreadful, we cannot omit beseeching, that before the Resolution of declaring War against them be carried into Execution, some farther Attempts may be made, by pacific Measures, to reduce them to a Sense of their Duty, and that a farther Opportunity may be offered to such as may be willing to separate from those who have been the wicked Instruments of perverting them.

The Settlement of this Province was founded on the Principles of Truth, Equity and Mercy, and the Blessing of Divine Providence attended the early Care of the first Founders to impress these Principles on the Minds of the native Inhabitants; so that when their Numbers were great, and their Strength vastly superior, they received our Ancestors with Gladness, relieved their Wants with open Hearts, granted them peaceable Possession of the Land, and, for a long Course of Time, gave constant and frequent Proofs of a cordial Friendship; all which we humbly ascribe to the infinite Wisdom and Goodness of God, "whose Hand is for Good upon all them that seek him;" and as the angelic Acclamation of Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on Earth, and Good-will to Men, with which the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ was published, and the Example and Precepts which He, as the Prince of Peace, gave through the Course of his personal Appearance on Earth, have given us undoubted Assurance that the Day is dawned in which his peaceable Reign will be exalted, and gradually become universal; we cannot, without Neglect of our Duty, and sacrificing the Peace of Conscience, we prefer to every temporal Blessing, omit reviving our Testimony in this Time of Probation, that all Wars appear to us contrary to the Nature and End of the Gospel Dispensation, and that we, as a People, still firmly believe, that on an humble and steady Acquiescence with the Dispensation of Divine Providence our real Protection and Security depends, from which no temporal Inconveniences and Difficulties can justify our departing.

Yet, while we earnestly desire all may attain this happy Experience, we do not presume to prescribe, but as our Minds feel more, than our Words can express, of Pain and Anxiety for our Brethren and Fellow-Christians, whose Desolation, we fear, will be increased and perpetuated by a hasty Declaration of War, we find ourselves obliged to beseech the Governor to resume the most weighty, serious and religious Deliberation on this melancholy Occasion, that so every Measure which hath been pursued, and whatever remains possible to be done, to prevent so fatal and lamentable an Extremity, may be strictly and impartially reviewed and considered; that full Enquiry may be made, whether some Apprehensions these *Indians* have conceived of a Deviation from the Integrity of Conduct towards them, so conspicuous in the first Establishment, may not, unhappily, have contributed, in some Degree, to the Alteration of their Conduct towards us; that full Time may be allowed for those *Indians* who still remain well affected towards us, to use and report the Effect of their Endeavours to reconcile our Enemies, and that proper Care may be taken to prevent our Allies being, through the Misconduct or evil Dispositions of any, injured in such Manner as to provoke them likewise to turn their Arms against us; and that the Governor's Care to guard against involving the Innocent with the Guilty, may carry so clear Demonstration of Christian Tenderness, and Aversion to shedding Blood, that an Evidence may be given to the Minds of the other neighbouring *Indians*, which may engage them heartily and sincerely to assist in the desirable Work of restoring Peace and Tranquillity, towards which all the Measures hitherto taken seem to have contributed little good Effect.

We therefore with Sincerity and Ardency pray, that the Calamities may be averted, which will ensue on a continued War with these Savages, some of the melancholy Effects of which the Annals of a neighbouring Province, full of the most warlike People, have testified; and as the Fear of God, Honour of the King, Love of our Brethren and Fellow-Christians, are the Motives which engaged us to make this Address, we hope to Demonstrate by our Conduct, that every Occasion of assisting and relieving the Distressed, and contributing towards the obtaining Peace, in a Manner consistent with out peaceable Profession, will be chearfully improved by us, and even though a much larger Part of our Estates should be necessary than the heaviest Taxes of a War can be expected to require, we shall chearfully, by voluntary Grants, evidence our Sincerity herein.

May the Mind of the Governor be indued with that Wisdom which the wisest of Kings experienced to be "better than Weapons of War;" and may thy Councils be directed to the Honour of God, and Good of the People over whom thou presidest, is our sincere Desire and Prayer."

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Philadelphia, Fourth Month 12, 1756.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Governor, on the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, report, that they had done the same according to Order; and that they were of Opinion, from the Reasons offered by the Governor, (which they related to the House) that his Amendments to the said Bill might be necessary.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I HAVE this Day received Information, that a Number of People from the Back Counties have resolved to meet at *Lancaster* on the Sixteenth Instant, and thence proceed to this City, to make some Demands of the Legislature now sitting.

As Attempts of this Kind may be dangerous to the King's Peace, and the Authority of the Legislature, I think proper to give you this timely Notice of it; and, by the Advice of the Council, shall give immediate Orders to the Provincial and other Magistrates, to use their utmost Endeavours to prevent the Mischiefs that may attend so extraordinary a Procedure.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, April 13, 1756.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Reasons offered by the Governor at the Conference, in Support of his Amendments to the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers, *&c.* and, after some Time spent therein, they were all agreed to by the House, except that proposing a longer Continuance of the Act than as mentioned in the Bill, which the Governor said he was willing to recede from, if the House thought proper to adhere to their Bill in that Particular.

Ordered, That the said Bill be ingrossed.

The Governor's Message of the Afternoon was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *William Callender*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Thomas Cummings*, *James Wright*, *John Wright*, *Francis Parvin* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

The Address from the People called *Quakers* was again read, and considered, and, after some Debate thereupon, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, being ingrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *David M'Connaughy* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers, *&c.* is ingrossed with his Amendments; and that the House desire he would be pleased to appoint a Time to receive the House, in order to enact the same into a Law; and likewise, that he would appoint some of his Council, to join with some Members of this House in comparing the said ingrossed Bill with the Original.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of Yesternight, reported the same to the House, and is was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.—And the same being accordingly done, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

SO extraordinary a Procedure as "the Meeting of a Number of People from the Back Counties, to make Demands of the Legislature now sitting," which the Governor has been pleased to give us Notice of, is truly surprising to us, considering the real Concern and great Care that has been demonstrated for their Protection and Security, by granting such large Sums of Money, and passing such Laws, as in our Judgment are most suitable to those Purposes, and most consistent with the just Rights of our Constituents.—But, although we are at a Loss to find out any Reason for this extraordinary Procedure from any Part of our Conduct, if the Governor shall think fit to lay before us the Information he has received upon this Occasion, we may possibly be able to form some Judgment of their Views or Designs, or wherein they apprehend themselves either aggrieved or neglected.

And as we are apprized of the Danger these People may involve themselves in, from the Acts of Parliament brought over and enforced within this Province, by an Act passed in the Fourth Year of the late Queen ANNE, to the Penalties of which this Part of our Inhabitants may unhappily subject themselves, without a due Sense of the Extent and Severity of those Acts: We therefore thank the Governor, for the Orders he has assured us he will immediately give to the Provincial and other Magistrates, to exert themselves, and prevent the Mischiefs that may attend their Conduct, if they should unhappily continue their Resolution of coming down to this City, to make any Demands upon the Legislature in a Manner inconsistent with our Constitution."

The foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* wait upon the Governor with the same, and enquire whether the Governor has come to any Result upon the Bills now before him; and likewise acquaint the Governor, that the House desire he would be pleased to lay before them a Copy of the Remainder of the *Indian* Minutes, and any other Papers he may have lately received relating to *Indian* Affairs.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers was ingrossed, return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would be at the Council Chamber To-morrow Morning, in order to enact the said Bill into a Law; and that he should appoint two Members of Council to join the Members of this House in comparing the ingrossed Bill with the Original.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* do meet the Members of Council, in order to compare the said ingrossed Bill with the Original.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Address from the People called *Quakers*, relating to a Declaration of War against the *Indians*, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had no Bills properly before him, except the Watch and Lamp Bill, which he had referred to his Council, who had not as yet reported on it. And upon being reminded by the Members, that the Bill for continuing the Excise Act was likewise before him, he replied, that he did not look upon that Bill as properly before him, by

Reason the House did not return him his proposed Amendments with it.

The Governor sent down, by the Members, the Remainder of the Minutes of Council, relating to *Indian* Affairs, which was read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to meet two Members of Council to compare the ingrossed Bill with the Original, report, that they had done the same according to Order, and that they found them to agree.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'THE *Indians* have this Afternoon been with me, and given me Notice by *Scarroyady*, that they intend to move in Three Days with their Wives and Children to the Country of the *Six Nations*, leaving *New-Castle* and two more to go with our Forces to *Shamokin;* and demanding of me the necessary Conveyances and Passports.—I was much surprized at this Resolution; to which, by Advice of Mr. *Weiser*, I gave no other Answer, but that I would, when every Thing was ready, send for them, and take my Leave.—I am fearful some Discontent has given Rise to this Sudden Resolution, though I know of no Reason they can have for it: However, if we cannot prevail on them to act with us (which I have directed Mr. *Weiser* to endeavour) it will be necessary to reward *Scarroyady* and Mr. *Montour* for their Trouble and Service to their Satisfaction, to send the others away well satisfied, and to give those that continue with us good Encouragement.

You will therefore give the necessary Directions for furnishing what may be proper upon this Occasion.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, April 15, 1756.

The Secretary informed the House, that the Governor was now in the Council Chamber ready to receive the House in order to pass into a Law the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* see the

Great Seal affixed to the Law after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor.—And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province*, to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

An Account from the Secretary, amounting to *Seventy-eight Pounds Two Shillings* and *Six-pence*, for Commissions granted to Military Officers, was laid before the House, and referred for farther Consideration.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office, report, that the same was done according to Order.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the following written Message, which was read, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'THE many and great Cruelties, committed upon his Majesty's Subjects within this Province by the *Delaware* Tribe of *Indians*, and the little Regard they have paid to the Messages sent them by our Friends and Allies the *Six Nations*, are sufficient to convince us, that they have put themselves under the Protection of the *French*, and will no longer regard their Treaties with us, or submit to the *Six Nations*, to whom they owe Obedience.

I have therefore thought proper, by and with the Advice, of the Council, to declare War against them, and all such as have, in Conjunction with them, committed Hostilities against the Inhabitants of this Province; and the Commissioners appointed to dispose of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, given to the King's Use, having, by their Letter of the Tenth Instant, proposed to me, to offer certain Rewards for the Taking of *Indian* Prisoners and Scalps, and promised, as far as in them lay, to enable me to pay the same, I have, by Proclamation, notified this to the People, and invited them and our Friendly *Indians* to make use of every Opportunity of pursuing, taking and destroying, the said Enemy *Indians*.

But as great Part of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* is already expended, and what remains will very soon be consumed in maintaining the Troops posted on the Frontiers, and other necessary Services, I recommend it to you, Gentlemen, to grant such further Supplies, as may be necessary to carry on the War with Vigour, upon the Success of which, the future Peace and Safety of the Inhabitants of this Province will very much depend.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, April 15, 1756.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed, that the Commisisoners, for the County of *Philadelphia*, appointed to disperse the Neutral *French*, were attending without, and had something to offer to the House, they were called in, and they then represented to the House sundry Difficulties they met with in the Execution of their Office, and desired the Advice of the House therein, which being accordingly given them, they withdrew.

A Petition from *Jacob Duché*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner having a large House empty near the City at the Time of the Arrival of Colonel *Dunbar's* Regiment, *William Plumsted*, Esq; present Mayor of this City, demanded the Keys of the said House, to make an Hospital for the Wounded of the King's Troops under the late General *Braddock*, and at the same Time promised his Care to see the Rent paid; but all his Endeavours, as well as those of the Petitioner, to come at the said Rent from the Director of his Majesty's Hospital in *North-America*, have been fruitless: That the Petitioner conceiving the Sum of *Fifteen Pounds* (which he values the said House-rent at for the Term of Six Months) to be too great a Tax for an Individual of his Circumstances, applied to the Commissioners of the Province, and they likewise refused to pay the said Account; the Petitioner therefore prays, that this House would take the Premises into their Consideration, and grant him such Relief as they in their Wisdom shall judge proper.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Ordered, That *Joscph Stretch*, *Joshua Morris*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Webb*, *David M'Connaughy*, *Francis Parvin* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's two last Messages.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Twenty-fourth Day of the next Month, called *May*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's two last Messages, reported the same to the House, and it being read, was agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.—Which being accordingly done, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

THE House are of Opinion, that the Act for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, passed in *November* last, has so fully provided for defraying our *Indian* Expences, under the present unhappy Circumstances of *Indian* Affairs, that the Gentlemen Commissioners, appointed by Virtue of that Act, will chearfully, out of that Money, reward *Scarroyady* and *Andrew Montour*, and furnish what else may be proper on the Occasion the Governor has been pleased to recommend to us in his first Message of the Fifteenth Instant; and we beg Leave to add, that it would be very agreeable to us, whenever these our Friendly *Indians* do go, that they may all go away satisfied; and that *Scarroyady* and *Andrew Montour*, particularly, may be made sensible of our Justice towards them, and the due Sense we have of their Trouble, and the Services they have done in Behalf of this Province.

That "great Part of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* so lately granted is already expended, and that what remains will be very soon consumed in maintaining the Troops posted on the Frontiers, and other necessary Services," as the Governor informs us in his second Message of the same Date, is what we know not how to help or avoid; but as the Assessment for sinking the Bills of Credit, issued in Pursuance of the said Act, is not yet laid or levied, and a great Part of that Money is still in Hand, we cannot think it will be of Use at this Time to lay an additional Load of Taxes upon the Inhabitants, as we shall very soon meet again upon the Adjournment now so absolutely necessary to our private Affairs, having waited long for the Governor's Answers to the Bills which we have laid before him.

The Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, we earnestly recommend to his serious Consideration, as we judge it a Bill of great Importance, if hereafter we should procure a Settlement at *Shamokin*, to conciliate the Minds of the *Indians* yet unfixed in their Resolutions, and confirming those already in Alliance with us, by suplying them with such Goods and other Things they may have Occasion for, on the easiest Terms, at the Charge, and under the immediate Inspection, of the Government."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Peter Dicks* and *Nathaniel Grubb* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

EVER since we received the Governor's Message of the Fourth of *March* last, relating to the putting a Stop to the Exportations of Provisions, in order to prevent a Scarcity within this Province, we have had that Matter under our serious Deliberation; and now, after a full Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Country, in the Particulars recommended to us, we hope, that under the common Course of God's good Providence, with which he has hitherto been graciously pleased to bless us, no considerable Dangers or Inconveniences may arise from referring the further Consideration of it to our next meeting, at which Time we may be better able to judge of the Expediency or Necessity of such a Prohibition, or what other Means in our Power may best answer the Ends proposed.

Signed by Order of the House,

ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker."

The Gentlemen sent up with the foregoing Messages were likewise directed to acquaint the Governor with the proposed Time of Adjournment, and to deliver him a Copy of his proposed Amendments to the Bill for continuing the Excise Act.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Widow *Heinselman's* Account, for the Maintenance of *Cayenquiloquoas's* two Sons, who were sent to the Academy, and found the whole Amount thereof to be *Forty-seven Pounds Nine Shillings* and *Nine-pence*, one Half of which is chargeable to the Province, and the other to the Proprietaries, who by Agreement were to pay an equal Part with the House for the Maintaining of the said two *Indian* Lads.—Which Report was agreed to by the House.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for *Twenty-three Pounds Fourteen Shillings* and *Ten-pence Half penny*, payable to the said *Heinselman.*

The Speaker informed the House that the Secretary had told him, that the Proprietaries had absolutely refused to contribute towards the Maintenance of the said *Indian* Lads any longer, and therefore if the House thought it might be of any Service to have them continued here, and educated amongst us, they must do it at the Expence of the Province.

And the House taking the same into Consideration;

Resolved, That as *Cayenquiloquoas* is a principal Person among the *Six Nations*, and is desirous to have his Sons educated amongst the *English*, and as this House are of Opinion, that the same may be attended with very good Consequences not only to the Proprietaries, and this Province in particular, but to the *British* Interest in *America* in general, we will defray all such reasonable Expences as shall arise thereupon, for such Time as it shall be judged necessary.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Messages of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had no Objection to the proposed Time of Adjournment; that he thought, with the House, there was no immediate Necessity for laying an Embargo on Provisions; that he should lay before the Commissioners the Affair of the *Indians* now in Town, and endeavour to send them away well satisfied; that he expected the House would have made some Preparations for executing the Plan of Operations for the ensuing Campaign, but as they had not, it must lie upon them; that as to the *Indian* Trade, and Excise Bills, he should consider them against the next Meeting; and lastly, that he thought it proper to mention to the House by their Messengers, that although he had had more Burdens laid upon him than any of his Predecessors in the same Time, yet he had received less from the House than any of them.

And the House taking into Consideration what the Governor had said relating to our not having made Preparations for executing the Plan of Operations for the ensuing Campaign;

Resolved, That as this Province has received no Assistance from our Mother Country, and as we have already expended large Sums of Money for the Raising and Supporting a considerable Body of Men for the Defence of our extensive Frontiers against the continued Depredations and Encroachments of a savage and merciless Enemy, besides what has been expended in maintaining the Friendly *Indians*, *French* Neutrals, and in other Purposes for the King's Service, which Expences are likely to be continued for some Time, the House are of Opinion, that the present Circumstances of the Province will not now admit of their going into any Preparations for executing the aforesaid Plan of Operations, and that it would be not only impracticable, but very imprudent, at a Time the Country is so greatly distressed by the unjustifiable Taking of indented Servants, and so many of our Freemen are inlisted and gone away, to send so great a Proportion of Men as is demanded of us to so great a Distance, and thereby deprive ourselves of their Assistance, which we have too much Reason to think we shall soon have Occasion for.

Then the House adjourned to the Twenty-fourth Day of the next Month, called *May*.

THE Representatives of this Province having been, by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, Twenty-three Members met accordingly, but not being a Quorum, they adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Quorum of the Members being met,

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him that the House are met in Pursuance of his Writs, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them; and desire he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had been at the Governor's House, and were informed by one of his Servants that the Governor was not in Town, and that it was not known when he would.

Ordered, That the Clerk do enquire of the Secretary, when he expects the Governor will be in Town.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Clerk reported, that he had, according to Order, enquired of the Secretary when he expected the Governor would be in Town, who informed him that he had not heard any Thing from the Governor concerning his Return.

The Secretary brought down to the House a written Message from the Governor, which he informed the House he had just received by Express.

Then the Secretary withdrew.

And it being moved, that it would be proper for the House to see by what Authority they were summoned, before they proceeded upon Business;

Ordered, That the Clerk do acquaint the Secretary, that the House do not think it proper to proceed upon Business until they have a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

The Clerk returned, and reported, that he had delivered the Message of the House, according to Order, and that the Secretary said, he had not thought any Thing concerning the Writs, and he believed the Governor had not; however, he would immediately acquaint the Council therewith.

The Secretary brought to the House one of the Writs by which the House were summoned, and the same was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the Message from the Governor was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'THE People of the Frontier Counties to the Westward, distressed by the cruel Ravages of the *Indians*, having lost great Numbers of their fighting Men, and the Remainder being either drove from their Habitations, into the interior Parts of the Province, or worn out with constant Watchings, there is the greatest Reason to apprehend, upon the next Attack, the Counties of *York* and *Cumberland* will be entirely evacuated, and the River *Susquehanna* become the Frontier on that Side, notwithstanding all the Commissioners and myself have been able to do for their Safety. The Consideration of this deplorable and dangerous Situation of those Counties, which the most considerable of their Inhabitants have in the most affecting Manner laid before me, induced me to call you together before the Time to which you stood adjourned. that the best and speediest Measures might be taken to prevent, if possible, the total Ruin and Desolation of so considerable a Part of the Province, which there is too much Reason to fear, from what has already happened, and that our Enemies will come in larger Bodies, and, favoured by the Season of the Year, do us much greater Mischiefs than they have hitherto done.

The Law for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province, has contributed very little, if any Thing, towards the Defence of the Frontiers; and, as I observed to you when I passed it, is so defective in itself, and requires so much Time to carry it into Execution, that nothing good is to be expected from it: For though many Companies have formed themselves under that Law, yet as it is not in my Power to order any of them to the Frontiers, they are, as to that most material Service, entirely useless. I must therefore recommend it to you, to form such a Militia Bill as is just and equal, that may be carried into immediate Execution, and may enable me to draw the Strength of the Province to such Parts as stand most in Need of it, that the Burden of defending the Frontiers, and consequently the Province, may not fall too heavily upon the few Inhabitants whose Circumstances oblige them to remain in the Back Counties.

By the latest Accounts from *Europe*, there is the greatest Reason to apprehend that the *French* have sent, or intend to send, a considerable Armament into *America*, which in all Probability will be the Seat of War; and, as I conceive, they will depend upon being supplied with Provisions from these Colonies, through the *Dutch* Settlements in the *West-Indies*, and have already had great Quantities that Way, it may greatly contribute to our Success, if that Channel of their procuring Supplies be stopped; which, in my Opinion, cannot be effectually done but, by a general Embargo; and we shall thereby not only distress them, but be better able to supply his Majesty's Forces employed in our Defence: I therefore recommend it to you to prepare a Bill to enforce and render effectual, by proper Penalties, and the Sanction of a Law, such an Embargo as shall be thought necessary by myself and the Governors of the neighboring Provinces to answer those Ends.

The Affairs of the Frontiers, and the particular Expedition for building a Fort at *Shamokin*, which is of so great Importance to the Province, requiring my personal Care and Attendance here for some Time longer, it gives me Concern that I cannot be at *Philadelphia* at this Time; but you may be assured I will give all the Dispatch imaginable to any Bills you may propose, which the Secretary will send me from Time to Time by Express.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Harris's Ferry, May 9, 1756.

A Petition from the Officers of the Regiment of Militia, and Artillery Company, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that hoping to be serviceable to their Country in Time of Danger, the Petitioners, with many others, have formed themselves into a Regiment, in Pursuance of the late Militia Law, and have used their utmost Endeavours to carry the same into full Execution, but without Effect; that they have yet no Articles or Rules formed for the Government of the Militia, nor (from sundry Causes, well known to some Members of the House) are they likely, under the present Law, to obtain any such Rules, without which, all they have hitherto done must prove of little Service; the Petitioners therefore pray, that this House would farther extend their Care of the Public Safety, by reconsidering the said Law, and making such additional Provisions as shall render the same effectual for the Defence of the Province. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *John Hughes*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Joseph Hamton*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Webb*, *John Smith* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *John Hughes*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Jonathan Ingham*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Webb*, *David M'Connaughy*, *John Smith* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for laying an Embargo on Provisions and Naval Stores within this Province.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

An Account from *Richard Peters*, Esq; for *Indian* Expences, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Consideration of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use.

Two Letters from Governor *Hardy* to Governor *Morris*, with Copies of two Bills passed in that Colony for restraining the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, were laid before the House, by the Secretary, and read.

A Bill for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of *Pennsylvania*, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first and second times, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Upon Motion made,

Ordered, That the Superintendants of the State-house do agree with some suitable Person, on the most reasonable Terms they can, to keep in proper Order the Clock belonging to the said Building.

An Account from *John Clark*, of the County of *Lancaster*, Goal-keeper, for the Maintenance of *Michael Russell*, a suspected *French* Spy, and for his Expences in bringing *John Hart* to *Philadelphia*, by Order of the Chief Justice, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined the Account of *Richard Peters*, Esq; for Expresses, and were of Opinion, that the same ought to be allowed by the House; to which Report the House agreed, and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of* Pennsylvania, being trascribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

Being met in Pursuance of the Governor's Call, we are concerned that he cannot be at *Philadelphia* at the Time he appointed, since the transacting Public Business with him at so great a Distance must be attended with many Difficulties and Inconveniences.

As by the Care of the Governor and the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* by us granted for his Majesty's Service, the Frontier of this Province is now in a better State of Defence than that of any other Colony on the Continent, being guarded by a Line of Forts at no great Distance from each other, all strongly garrisoned; and the Soldiery, in Pay of this Government, if they were at first remiss in their Duty, are now reduced to due Obedience and Discipline, by our extending hither at our last Sitting the Act of Parliament for punishing Mutiny and Desertion; we cannot but hope the distressed Inhabitants of the Counties of *York* and *Cumberland* may, by the Blessing of GOD on those Means, become more secure in their Settlements, and their late Fears and Apprehensions be considerably abated. Especially as we understand there are in the interior Counties many formed Companies, as yet unemployed, who are ready to enter into the Service, and march to the Frontier, whenever the Government shall think fit to call for them, and a considerable Sum is still in the Hands of the Commissioners, wherewith the Expence might be defrayed. The Marching of the Militia to the Frontier on every Alarm we conceive would be less effectual for its Defence, and much more expensive and burdensome to the People, than their Proportion of a Tax for the Maintenance of Standing Guards. We have indeed had little Experience of a Militia in this Province, and a Law for regulating it was a new Thing to us; it is therefore very possible that our first Essay of that Kind may have Defects and Imperfections. But as the Governor did not point them out, when we presented the Bill, and he gave it his Assent, and they have not since occurred to us, all we can say on that Head, at present, is, that whenever he shall think fit to send us down such supplementary Amendments as he conceives will make it a good Law, and effectual to answer its Purposes, we will take them into serious Consideration. This the Governor may possibly be ready to do by the Time to which we stood adjourned, now not far distant.

We have herewith sent a Bill for prohibiting the Exportation of Provisions or Warlike Stores from this Province, which we hope will meet with the Governor's Concurrence, being in Conformity with the Law lately passed in the Colony of *New-York*. But as all Restrictions laid upon such Exportations by the Legislature of this Province must be rendered altogether ineffectual, as great Quantities of the Produce thereof may be exported through the *Three Lower Counties*, not subject to our Laws, unless they are laid under the same Restrictions within that Government, we have referred the Continuance of our Law to such future Act as the Governor and Assembly of those Counties shall pass for that Purpose. We apprehend a strict Compliance with this Law will be of great Service to the *British* Interest, and therefore earnestly recommend it to the Governor to use his utmost Endeavours, that this Act, when it shall have received his Assent, may be effectually carried into Execution.

As the Season requires the present Attendance of many of the Members at their Plantations, they propose to adjourn this Day to the Time of their former Adjournment, the Twenty-fourth Instant; when they hope the Affairs the Governor is at present engaged in, may be in such a Situation as to permit his Return to meet them in *Philadelphia*."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *David M'Connaughy* and *John Smith* do, on their Return Home, wait upon the Governor at *Harris's* Ferry, and deliver the same, together with the Bill for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, to which the House desire his Concurrence.

A Petition from the Officers of the Association Companies in the City of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Reason why they have not acted under the present Militia Law, is, because they apprehend it to be deficient in several Respects (which are particularized by the Petitioners;) they therefore pray, that the said Law may be repealed, and a new one framed, wherein the Defects of the former may be remedied.

Ordered, That the said Petition and the Petition from the Officers of the City Regiment be referred to further Consideration.

Ordered, That the Trustees of the General Loan-Office do pay off a Year's Interest due on the Province Bills, or Orders, (which were drawn in Pursuance of a Vote of the last Assembly on the Second Day of the Month called *Apil*, 1755) to such Persons as shall demand the same.

The Committee of Accounts reported, that they had examined an Account from *David Magaw*, for Debts due to him from sundry of the *Ohio* Road-Cutters, and found that the same were deducted from the said Road-Cutters Accounts before they were respectively paid, and therefore the said *Magaw's* Account ought to be paid by this House.—To which Report the House agreed; and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, for *Sixteen Pounds Four Shillings* and *Ten-pence*, the Amount of the said Account, payable to *Joseph Morris*, who had an Order from the said *Magaw* to receive the same, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House.

Then the House adjourned to the Twenty-fourth Day of this Month.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *John Hughes* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met, according to their Adjournment, and are ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

Sundry Letters from the Agents were laid before the House by the Committee of Correspondence and read.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had been at the Governor's House, and were there informed by a Servant, that the Governor was not in Town, and that it was uncertain when he would.

The Speaker laid before the House the Bill for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and War-like Stores from the Province of *Pennsylvania*, which he informed the House he had received from the Secretary, who said, that as the Governor's Presence was required at *Harris's* Ferry, and the Law was immediately necessary, he had there affixed the Great Seal to the transcribed Copy, enacted it, and ordered it to be enrolled, without the usual Formality of having it ingrossed, *&c.*

And the same being read, and compared at the Table, and found to agree with the Copy in the House, and the House continuing in the same Opinion with regard to the said Bill, it was signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, and *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* were ordered to see it deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Law deposited in the Rolls Office, report, that they had done the same according to Order.

Sundry Letters from *Robert Charles*, Esq; one of the Agents of this Province at the Court of *Great-Britain*, were laid before the House and read.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Secretary brought down to the House two Messages from the Governor in Writeing, one of which he informed the House was designed to have been delivered at the last Sitting, but it did not come to Hand till about Half an Hour after the House had adjourned.

And the said Messages being read, were as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'Since my Message to you of the Ninth Instant, I have received Letters from Governor *Dinwiddie* and Governor *Sharpe*, which the Secretary will lay before you, giving an Account of the miserable Situation of their Frontiers, and the Danger they are in from the Numbers of *Indians* and *French* that have already penetrated as far as *Winchester*.

Upon Receipt of this Intelligence, I have sent Orders to the Forts and Garrisons on the Western Frontier to be upon their Guard, and to put themselves into the best Posture of Defence they possibly can, and am doing every Thing else in my Power that can contribute to the better securing that most exposed Part of our Frontiers; but as those Garrisons are but small, and we have no Body of Forces on the West-side of *Susquehanna* sufficient to take the Field, I am fearful they will not be able to maintain their Posts against the Numbers of the Enemy that there is the greatest Reason to expect will soon appear in those Parts: And we should therefore lose no Time in preparing in some more effectual Manner for their Defence.

I have received from the Governor of *New-York* Copies of an Act for a general Embargo on Provisions and Warlike Stores, formerly passed there, and expired, and of an Act passed there the Fourth Instant, for reviving it for Twenty-one Days, and then from the Time that the Legislature of this Province and *New-Jersey* shall respectively pass Laws for those Purposes, and to be of equal Continuance with those Laws, provided they exceed not Three Months. And in his Letter, accompanying the Copies of the said Acts, desires our Concurrence in laying a general Embargo; which, being agreeable to my Sentiments, as mentioned in my last Message to you, I again recommend it to you immediately to prepare and send me a Bill for that Purpose. I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you Copies of the said Acts, with Sir *Charles Hardy's* Letter.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Harris's Ferry, May 12, 1756.

GENTLEMEN,

'I was in Hopes the Affairs I am engaged in here would have been in such Forwardness, that I might, without Prejudice to this important Part of the Public Service, have been in *Philadelphia* by the Time of your meeting To-morrow; but all the Dispatch I have been able to give them, has not brought them so forward as I could wish, and as the Season of the Year requires. However, I have the Satisfaction to acquaint you, that we have made a Lodgment in a very secure Place upon the River beyond the *Kittatinny* Hills, and above the two most difficult Falls, to which Place a considerable Part of the Provisions and Stores are removed, and the Remainder will be transported thither as fast as a Number of proper Boats can be got ready.

The Secretary will lay before you a Letter I have received from Governor *Sharpe*, with the Extacts of an Act of his Govenment, for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* for his Majesty's Service; by which you will see that it is expected we shall join in carrying on an Expedition to the Westward, and that *Twenty-five Thousand Pounds*, intended for that Service, is conditional, and not to be employed till Governor *Sharpe* has undoubted Assurances that *Virginia* and this Province will contribute their reasonable Quotas towards the supporting and carrying on such Expedition.

You must be sensible, from what has already happened, that this Province has no Reason to expect either Peace or Safety while the *French* remain in Possession of the Country they have seized and fortified behind us; and that the most effectual Means of bringing the *Indians* back to their Alliance with, and Dependance upon, us, will be for these Western Colonies vigorously to unite their Strength in making a well concerted Push to dislodge the *French* from those their Encroachments; and no Time seems so favourable for that Purpose as while his Majesty's Troops, and those of the Eastern Provinces, are employed against them to the Northward. I must therefore recommend it to you, to take this Matter into your immediate Consideration, and enable me to give Governor *Sharpe* the expected Assurances that we will join and contribute our reasonable Proportion towards that Expedition, which, if successful, must tend so much to the Advantage and Security of this Province.

By a Letter from Commodore *Spry*, an Extract of which will be laid before you, I find that he is in great Want of Seamen for his Majesty's Ships under his Command, a Number of which he desires may be sent him from these Colonies. As the having that Squadron fully manned at this Time is a Matter of great Importance to his Majesty's Service, and to the Safety not only of *Nova-Scotia*, but of the rest of the Continent; I therefore recommend it to you, to enable me, by Bounty or otherwise, to raise and send him as many Seamen as the Trade of the Province can spare, which will be a very seasonable and acceptable Service.

I propose to leave this Place To-morrow or on *Tuesday* at farthest, and hope to be with you by the Time you can have any Business prepared to lay before me.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Camp at *Harris's Ferry, May* 23, 1756.

The several Letters and Papers referred to in the foregoing Message, were likewise read, and considered.

The Speaker laid before the House the following Letter from *John Smith*, one of the Representatives for the County of *Cumberland*, which he informed the House he had just received, *viz.*

Carlisle, May 20, 1756.

SIR,

'On Monday last Mr. *M'Connaughy* and myself arrived at *Harris's* Ferry, and delivered the Bill to the Governor according to Order, together with the Message of the House; and the Governor was pleased to say, he would immediately pass the Bill into a Law, in our Presence. We asked him if that would do; he said it would do well enough, and requested that we would stay and see him affix the Great Seal to it; and accordingly we did stay. I am,

Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

To Isaac Norris, *Esq;* JOHN SMITH."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Messages were again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That Commodore *Spry's* Request for Seamen be recommended to the Consideration of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use, for them to do therein what they shall judge necessary for his Majesty's Service.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message, dated the Twenty-third Instant, was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *John Clark's* Account, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be allowed, amounting to *Eight Pounds Seven Shillings*. To which Report the House agreed, and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House resumed the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the Twenty-third Instant; and, after some Time spent therein,

Resolved, That a farther Sum of Money be at this Time granted to the King's Use; and that the same be struck in Paper Bills of Credit, and sunk by a Tax on all the Estates, Real and Personal, and Taxables, within this Province.

Ordered, That *John Hughes, Benjamin Franklin, Mahlon*

Kirkbride, *Nathaniel Pennock*, *James Webb*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill pursuant to the foregoing Resolve.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Bill for granting an additional Sum of Money to the King's Use, reported, that they had made some Progress therein, but not having compleated the same, desired further Time for that Purpose.

Resolved, That this House will now adjourn to next *Second-day*, in order to give the said Committee Time to prepare the said Bill.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Bill for granting an additional Sum of Money to the King's Use, reported, that they had made some considerable Progress therein, but not having compleated the same, desired farther Time.

Ordered, That the said Committee have Time till To-morrow Afternoon to compleat the said Bill.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

A Bill for granting the Sum of *Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking the said Sum in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Sundry Letters from the Agents were laid before the House by the Committee of Correspondence, and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, together with several Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'I have directed the Secretary to lay before you Extracts from two Letters of Sir *Charles Hardy's* relating to *Indian*

Affairs, as also the Minutes of what has been transacted with the *Indians* on *Susquehanna*, in Consequence of those Letters; by which you will see the Disposition those People are in, and the Desire they have to be distinguished from the *Indians* that have joined the *French*, and to renew their Alliance and Friendship with us.

The Council have advised me upon this Occasion, to publish a Proclamation for a Suspension of Hostilities, that the Measures now taking for an Accommodation may meet with no Obstruction, nor any Umbrage be given to those *Indians* for preventing the bringing that Affair to a satisfactory Issue; and I propose to send the Proclamation forthwith to *Diaoga*, accompanied with a proper Message, and make no Doubt of the necessary Support from you in the Prosecution of these Measures.

In order to render the late Embargo permanent and effectual, I have called the Assembly of the Lower Counties to meet at *New-Castle* on *Friday* the Fourth Instant, and shall recommend it to them to pass a Law to the same Effect with that lately passed here; and as that will only occasion an Absence of three or four Days, I imagine it will not interrupt any Business that you may have under Consideration.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, June 2, 1756,

And the foregoing Message being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Brown, George Ashbridge, Peter Worral, John Smith, Francis Parvin* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message of Yesterday, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the same being accordingly done, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

As it appears by the Letters from Sir *Charles Hardy*, and the Minutes of Sir *William Johnson's* Negotiations with a Deputation from the *Onondagoes* to the *Delaware* and *Shawanese Indians*, as well as by the Account of what has been transacted with the *Indians* on *Susquehanna*, which the Governor has been pleased to lay before us, that the *Delaware* and *Shawanese Indians*, by the Authority and Interposition of the *Six United Nations*, "have promised to cease from further Hostilities, and are disposed to renew and strengthen their Alliance and Friendship with the *English*," the Governor will not fail of the necessary Support in the Prosecution of such Measures as may tend to a happy Issue of this good Disposition in the *Delaware* and *Shawanese* Tribes; and accordingly we heartily recommend it to the Commissioners appointed by Law to dispose of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* lately granted to the King's Use, to concur with the Governor in furnishing such Supplies of Money as may be necessary for effectuating these good Purposes.

We are of Opinion. that the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, which has lain a considerable Time before the Governor for his Assent, might be of great Service at this Juncture, by bringing such of our *Indians* as have never joined with, and desire to be distinguished from, those who have been concerned in the Hostilities committed upon the Back Settlements of this and the neighbouring Privinces, under the immediate Inspection and Care of this Government; and as by the Passing this Bill, we apprehend the Necessities of these our Friendly *Indians* may be supplied, and their Affections secured on the easiest Terms, and those of other Dispositions brought in by their own Interests, we request the Governor would concur with us in passing that Bill."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *James Pemberton* and *Joseph Stretch* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would reconsider the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'You are sensible that the Trouble and Expence attending the Administration of the Government, since my Arrival, have been considerably greater than in any former Time, and that no Sums, since your first Sessions, have been granted for my Support; I must therefore desire you will take this Matter into your Consideration, and make such Provision as is agreeable to Justice, and the Practice of former Assemblies.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, June 3, 1756.

The Secretary informed the House, that the Governor desired that they would return him the Paper of proposed Amendments, which he sent down with the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade; and the same was delivered to the Secretary accordingly.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Callender* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are very desirous of knowing the Governor's Result on the Excise, Watch, and *Indian* Trade Bills, that have lain so long under his Consideration, before he goes to *New-Castle*, if possible.

A Petition from *Joseph Yeates*, a Prisoner for Debt in the Goal of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that he is willing to give up all that he is worth in the World towards satisfying his Debts, but finds all his Endeavours for that Purpose ineffectual, through the Obstinacy of the Person at whose Suit he is confined; that he has no Hopes of ever being able to work on the Compassion of his said Creditor, is utterly unable to pay the Debt, and being excluded from the Benefit of the Acts of Assembly of this Province for Relief of insolvent Debtors, by the Largeness of his Debt, he has the shocking Prospect of lingering the Remainder of his Days in Goal (he being at this Time upwards of Fifty Years old) if this House will not intefere in his Behalf; the Petitioner therefore prays, that this House will take his unhappy Case into Consideration, and grant him such Relief as to their Wisdom shall seem meet.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would again take the three Bills under his Consideration, but he believed that he should not come to any Result upon them till after his Return from *New-Castle.*

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Peter Conrad*, of the County of *Berks*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the petitioner is in distressed Circumstances, occasioned by the

Indians burning his Mill, *&c.* and therefore prays this House would grant him Relief in the Premises.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the Twenty-eighth Instant.

Ordered, That *John Smith* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and desire to know whether he has come to any Result upon those Bills now before him, and if the Governor should say he had not come to any Resolution upon the said Bills, then to acquaint him, that the House incline to adjourn to the Twenty-eighth Instant, if he hath no Objection thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had been at the Governor's House, and were there informed that the Governor was gone to *New-Castle.*

James Pemberton, *Joshua Morris*, *William Callender*, *William Peters*, *Peter Worral* and *Francis Parvin*, Members of this House, having requested Leave to resign their Seats, for Reasons set forth in a Paper signed by them, which they this Afternoon presented to the House and read, it was, after some Time spent in Consideration thereof,

Resolved, That, if, after the Adjournment of the House, the said Members shall continue in the same Mind, and deliver the before-mentioned Paper into the Hands of the Speaker, their Seats shall be deemed vacated accordingly; and the Speaker shall forthwith issue his Order to the Povincial Secretary for the electing new Members in their Places.

Then the House adjourned to the Twenty-eighth Instant.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Speaker informed the House, that *James Pemberton*, *Joshua Morris*, *William Callender*, *William Peters*, *Peter Worral* and *Francis Parvin*, having, immediately after the Adjournment of the House, delivered to him the same Paper which they read at the last Sitting, requesting Leave to resign their Seats (by which Act of theirs they became disabled to sit or serve in Assembly, in Pursuance of a Vote of the House expressly declaring, that upon Performance of the said Act the Seats of the before-mentioned Persons should be deemed vacated) he had thereupon, according to the Directions of the House, sent an Order to the Secretary to issue Writs to the Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, and to the Sheriffs of the Counties of *Chester*, *Lancaster*, and

Berks, respectively, for electing other Persons to serve in Assembly, in the Room and Stead of those who resigned as aforesaid. But the Secretary refusing to issue the said Writs, the Speaker had, by the Advice of such Members as were in Town, issued the Writs himself, according to the Direction of the Law in that Case made and provided.

Then the Speaker laid before the House the following Papers, *viz.*

1. The Request of the Six Members to resign their Seats in Assembly.

2. A Copy of the Speaker's Order to the Secretary to issue Writs for a new Election.

3. The Secretary's Letter to the Speaker, concerning the Governor's Objections to issuing the said Writs.

4. A Copy of the Speaker's Answer to the said Letter.

5. The Secretary's Letter in Reply.

6. A Copy of the Speaker's Letter to the Sheriff's, inclosing Writs for a new Election.

7. A copy of the Speaker's Writs to the Sheriffs for a new Election.

And the foregoing Papers being severally read, were ordered to be put upon the Minutes of this House.

And they accordingly follow in these Words, *viz.*

May it please the Speaker and the House,

A few Days since we communicated to the House our Inclinations to resign our Seats; in which the House appeared disposed to favour us.

This Repetition of our continuing in those Intentions does not proceed from any Design of involving the House in unnecessary Trouble, but as many of our Constituents seem of Opinion that the present Situation of Public Affairs call upon us for Services in a military Way, which, from a Conviction of Judgment, after mature Deliberation, we cannot comply with, we conclude it most conducive to the Peace of our own Minds, and the Reputation of our religious Profession, to permit in our Resolutions of resigning our Seats, which we accordingly now do; and request these our Reasons may be entered on the Minutes of the House.

Philadelphia, Sixth Month, 1756.

James Pemberton, William Peter,
Joshua Morrs, Peter Worral,
William Callender, Francis Parvin."

To the Provincial SECRETARY for the Time being.

WHEREAS *James Pemberton* and *Joshua Morris*, chosen to serve in Assembly for the County of *Philadelphia; William Callender*, chosen to serve in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia; William Peters*, chosen to serve in Assembly for the County of *Chester; Peter Worral*, chosen to serve in Assembly for the County of *Lancaster;* and *Francis Parvin*, chosen to serve in Assembly for the County of *Berks;* have each and every of them resigned and vacated their Seats in this Assembly; whereupon I am desired and impowered by the House of Representatives to issue my Order for a new Election of Members to serve in Assembly in their Room and Stead:

These are therefore, pursuant to the Direction of a Law of this Province, to require thee forthwith to issue Writs to the Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, and to the Sheriffs of the Counties of *Chester*, *Lancaster* and *Berks*, respectively, for electing other Persons to serve in Assembly in their Stead.

ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker*."

June 7, 1756.

Philadelphia, June 9, 1756.

SIR,

AGREEABLE to your Order of Yesterday, I prepared Writs to the several Sheriffs for the Election of new Members of Assembly to serve in the Place and Stead of *James Pemberton, Joshua Morris, William Callender, William Peters, Peter Worral* and *Francis Parvin*, Esquires, according to the inclosed Form, and laid them, with your Order, before the Governor, in the same Manner as I have always done on the Receipt of such Orders; who observed, that by the Law of the Fourth Year of Queen ANNE, to ascertain the Number of Members of Assembly, and to regulate Elections, on which he presumes the Order is founded, and from which all Power in these Cases is derived, Writs to be issued, in Consequence of the Speaker's Order, are expressly confined to the particular Cases of Death, wilful Absence, or a Vote of the House disabling a Member to fit or serve in Assembly, and that the Case of Resignation assigned in your Order for a new Election is not taken Notice of, or provided for by that Act, and therefore he could not think it right to sign those Writs; of which I think it my Duty to give you this Information: And am,

Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS, *Provincial Secretary*."

BY a Paper in my Possession, signed by all the Members who have vacated their Seats in Assembly, the House, upon consulting the Precedents upon their Minutes, and the Law of the Fourth of Queen ANNE, resolved, that if those Members should, after the rising of the House, still continue their Resolution of attending the Service of the Country no longer, and signify that Resolution by leaving the Paper which they presented, and was read in the House, then the Speaker should issue his Order for a new Election.—I have desired the Sheriff to procure this Resolve of the House from the Clerk, which he will deliver herewith. I hope this Explanation may be satisfactory to the Governor, and that the Writs may issue as the Law directs, in Pursuance of the Order I have given by the Authority and Direction of the House.

June 10, 1756. *I am your assured Friend,*

To Richard Peters, *Esq;* ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

Philadelphia, June 11, 1756.

SIR,

I LAID your Letter, delivered me by the Sheriff, and the Extract from the Minutes of the House, before the Governor, who, after considering them, hath desired me to let you know, that your Explanation of the Manner in which the Members therein mentioned are said to have resigned and vacated their Seats in Assembly, fails of giving him that Satisfaction on the Occasion you seem to expect. He is still of Opinion, that the Case of Resignation is not provided for by the Act of the Fourth of Queen ANNE; and that as the Six Members did sit and vote in the House at the Time of Adjournment, he does not conceive that any Act done in the Recess of the House can vacate their Seats, or disqualify them from sitting in Assembly at the next Meeting. I am,

Sir, Your Most obedient humble Servant,

To Isaac Norris, *Esq;* RICHARD PETERS."

THE Provincial Secretary not complying with my Order to him, according to the Direction of the Act of the Fourth of Queen ANNE, entituled, *An Act to ascertain the Number of Members of Assembly, and to regulate the Elections*, I do now issue the inclosed Writ, in Pursuance of the said Act.

ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, *Esq; Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *and Counties of* New-Castle, Kent *and* Sussex, *on* Delaware,

To the SHERIFF *of the City and County of* Philadelphia, *Greeting.*

WHEREAS *James Pemberton* and *Joshua Morris*, Esquires, chosen to serve in Assembly for the County of *Philadelphia;* and *William Callender*, Esq; chosen to serve in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*, have each and every of them resigned, and by the Authority of the House of Representatives vacated their Seats in the Assembly; these are therefore to authorize and require thee to cause two Freeholders to be elected according to Law, to serve in Assembly for the said County of *Philadelphia*, in the Room and Stead of the said *James Pemberton* and *Joshua Morris*, and one other Freeholder, to serve in Assembly for the said City of *Philadelphia*, in the Room of the said *William Callender*, and make Return thereof according to Law. Given under my Hand and Seal, at *Philadelphia*, the Fifteenth Day of *June*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-six, and in the Twenty-ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign.

To James Coultas, *Esq;* ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

A Return of the Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia* was brought to the House, whereby it appeared that *Thomas Leech* and *Daniel Roberdeau* were chosen Representatives to serve in Assembly for the said County the Remainder of the present Year, in the Room and Stead of *James Pemberton* and *Joshua Morris;* and that *William Masters* was chosen Representative to serve in Assembly for the said City, the Residue of the present Year, in the Room and Stead of *William Callender.*

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Chester* was brought to the House, by which it appeared, that *John Morton* was chosen Representative to serve in Assembly for the said County, in the Room and Stead of *William Peters.*

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Lancaster* was brought to the House, by which it appeared, that *Emanuel Carpenter* was chosen Representative to serve in Assembly for the said County, in the Room and Stead of *Peter Worral.*

A Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Berks* was brought to the House, whereby it appeared, that *John Potts* was chosen Representative to serve in Assembly for the said County, in the Room and Stead of *Francis Parvin.*

The House taking the said Papers and Returns into Consideration,

Resolved, *N. C. D.* That the said *Thomas Leech*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *William Masters*, *John Morton*, *Emanuel Carpenter* and *John Potts* are duly elected Members of this House.

Ordered, That *Joseph Hamton* and *Calvin Cooper* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met, pursuant to their Adjournment, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to ask how many Members there were met in the House; and upon being informed that there were *Thirty-one*, he said that he should lay something before the House this Morning.

Thomas Leech, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *William Masters*, *John Morton* and *Emanuel Carpenter* appearing in the House, took and subscribed the usual Qualification by law appointed to be taken by the Members of Assembly, and then took their Seats in the House accordingly.

Sundry Letters from the Agents were read; also a Bill of Exchange for *Three Hundred Pounds* Sterling, drawn by them on the Committee of Correspondence, for public Services to be accounted for by them hereafter;

Resolved, That the said Bill of Exchange be accepted and paid by the Trustees of the General Loan-Office.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'HIS Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Earl of *Loudon* Commander in Chief of all his Forces in *North-America*, and ordered two Regiments of Foot, a Train of Artillery, and a sufficient Quantity of Warlike Stores for the Service and Defence of these Colonies, he has commanded me to give his Lordship and the Troops all the Assistance in my Power, and particularly to recommend it to you, to appropriate such Part of the Funds already raised, or which shall be raised for the Public Service, to be issued and applied to the general Service, in such Manner as the Commander in Chief shall direct.

His Majesty, enabled by Act of Parliament, has been pleased to appoint a Number of *German*, *Swiss* and *Dutch* Protestants to be Officers of a Regiment which he has called the *Royal American Regiment;* and it being of great Importance to his Majesty's Service that proper Encouragement be given to such Persons as may be inclined to inlist in the King's Troops, he has ordered me particularly to recommend it to you to make Provision out of such Funds as already exist, or may hereafter be raised for the King's Service, for repaying the Masters of such indented Servants as shall engage in his Majesty's Service, the Money paid by the said Masters upon the original Contract, in Proportion to the Time such indented Servants have to serve.

His Majesty has further commanded me to recommend it to you, to pass effectual Laws for prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with the *French*, and to prevent their being supplied with Provisions; and as the Law lately passed here for an Embargo will, by the Expiration of the Act for that Purpose passed in the Lower Counties, end on the Seventh of *July*, I hope you will prepare a proper Bill for continuing an Embargo, so necessary for his Majesty's Service, and the Safety of these Colonies, for some Time longer.

The Secretary will lay before you Extracts of the Secretary of State's Letters to me, relating to the Matters now recommended, and I hope you will without Delay enter upon the Consideration of them, and comply with his Majesty's Expectations.

The Money heretofore given for the King's Use will be very soon expended, and I shall in that Case be under a Necessity of disbanding the Troops raised for the Defence of the Province, and of destroying or abandoning the several Forts erected upon our Frontiers; I must therefore desire you will grant such further Supplies as the present Situation of our Affairs require.

Philadelphia, June 29, 1756.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, William Masters, Mahlon Kirkbride, Joseph Gibbons, James Wright, John Wright, John Smith* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a

Draught of an Answer to that Part of the Governor's Message which relates to the continuation of the Embargo on Provisions.

The Bill for granting the Sum of *Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking the said Sum in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, which was brought in at the last Sitting, was again taken up, read the second time, and considered; and after some Time spent therein, was referred to farther Consideration.

Ordered, That *William Hoge* and *George Ashbridge* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know whether he has come to any Result upon the three Bills now before him.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'clock To-morrow Morning.

John Potts, returned a Representative for the County of *Berks*, in the Room of *Francis Parvin*, appearing in the House, took and subscribed the Qualification by Law appointed to be taken by Members of Assembly, and then took his Seat in the House accordingly.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he thought the Bill for continuing the Excise Act, and the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, had been returned to the House Yesterday; but since they were not, he should send them down to the House this Day; and as to the Watch and Lamp Bill, he had made some Amendments thereto, which he had referred to his Council for their Consideration, who had not as yet come to any Conclusion thereupon.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to that Part of the Governor's Message which relates to the Embargo on Provisions, reported the same to the House; and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for continuing the Excise Act, with sundry proposed Amendments thereto, and the Bill for regulating the *Indian* Trade, together with a Message in Writing, and a Copy of an Instruction from the Proprietaries.

And the said Message and Instruction being read, are as follow, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'The Secretary will lay before you the Bill, entituled, *An Act for the continuing an Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits*, to which I have added a Clause, that the Money arising thereby shall be disposed of in such Manner as the Governor and Commander in Chief, and in Case of his Death or Absence, the President of the Council, and the House of Representatives shall direct and appoint.—This Manner of disposing of the Public Money appears to me most conducive to the general Interest, and you will observe by an Article in the Proprietary Instructions to me, which I send you herewith, that I am restrained from passing any Bill of that Nature without such an appropriating Clause.

I have reconsidered the Bill, entituled, *An Act for supplying the Western and Northern* Indians, *Friends and Allies of* Great-Britain, *with Goods at more easy Rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the* Indian *Trade*, and the Amendments I heretofore made to it, and am still of Opinion that they are just and reasonable; and I cannot therefore recede from them.

Philadelphia, June 30, 1756.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

An INSTRUCTION from the Honourable Thomas Penn *and* Richard Penn, *Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries, and Governors in Chief of the Province of* Pennsylvania, *and Counties of* New-Castle, Kent *and* Sussex, *on* Delaware,

To Robert Hunter Morris, *Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of the said Province and Counties.*

'You shall not give your Assent to any Law for prolonging the Present Excise, or laying any other Excise, or raising any Money on the Inhabitants of the said Province of *Pennsylvania*, unless there be an enacting Clause, that all Money arising from the said Excise, or other Duties, shall be disposed of only as we, or either of us, exercising the Office of Governor, or the Lieutenant Governor, or in Case of his Death or Absence, the President of the Council, and the House of Representatives, for the Time being, shall direct, and not otherwise."

A true Copy, examined with the Original, by

Richard Peters, *Secretary.*

The Governor's proposed Amendments to the Bill for continuing the Excise Act were read, and considered, and referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

In Answer to that Part of the Governor's Message of the Twenty-ninth Instant, wherein he has been pleased to signify his Majesty's Commands that he should recommend our "passing effectual Laws for prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with the "*French*, and to prevent their being supplied with Provisions," the Governor must know, that at the Request of Sir *Charles Hardy*, and in Pursuance of his own Recommendation, in a Message of the Twenty-third of *May* last, we passed an Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from this Province, which is yet in Force, and would have continued so till the Fourth of *August* next, the Time limited by the Law of *New York* for like Purposes, provided the Three Lower Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex* had passed a law for prohibiting the Exportation from thence during the same Term.

As Provisions might be exported from this Province through those Counties, not subject to our Laws, and great Quantities are raised there, we were fully apprized that any Restraints we could lay upon our Exportations here would by no Means put a Stop to the Supplying the *French* with Provisions, unless that Government prohibited the Exportations from thence also; we therefore limited the Continuance of our Act accordingly, and we must own the Astonishment we were under, when we found the Governor had enacted a Law there invalidating the Acts of the other Colonies, by limiting the Continuance of their Act to one Month only.

As our Act prohibits the Exportation of Provisions in Conformity with the Law of *New-York* Colony, with which *New-Jersey*, we understand, has also complied, the Governor cannot think it reasonable, that the Colonies of *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, and this Province, should be deprived of their Laws by an Act of the Government of the Three Lower Counties; therefore as that Act was passed by the Governor himself, we presume, instead of applying to us upon this Occasion, he will think it his Duty to call the Assembly of the Three Lower Counties, to whom it belongs to continue their Law to the Time limited by the other Governments.

It is well known that *Maryland* raises great Quantities of Wheat, Pork, and other Provisions, and yet, as we are informed, their Ports have hitherto continued open to the Exports of Provisions from thence, the Governor will therefore judge the Necessity of recommending a Prohibition there, without which, we apprehend the Acts of the Northern and Eastern Colonies must prove ineffectual."

And the foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Samuel Brown* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a Letter he had just received from a Merchant of the City of *Philadelphia*, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

SIR, *Philadelphia, June* 30, 1756.

In Consequence of my Orders from the Contractor to supply his Majesty's Troops and Garrisons in *Newfoundland*, I have chartered and loaded the Brigantine *Princess Louisa*, of this Place, with Provisions for the Use of Colonel *Hopson's* Regiment, and the Detachments of the Train of Artillery there, on which Provisions they depend, and have no other Expectations of being supplied; but finding the Collector of his Majesty's Customs had not Authority to admit this Vessel to a Clearance, though loaded entirely for the Use of the King's Troops, of which I am ready to give any Proof or Satisfaction that may be required, I applied to the Governor, and prayed for an Order that the Vessel might be cleared, and received for Answer, *"That the Governor had laid my Application before the Council, and the Board, in considering the Act lately passed, was unanimously of Opinion, that no such Order could legally issue."*

I have supplied the above-mentioned Troops with Provisions from hence these Six Years past, and being just come in from *London*, I did not know of any Act prohibiting the Exportation of Provisions for the Use of his Majesty's Troops in any Part of his Dominions, nor was I informed of it by any Person before the Vessel was ready to clear at the Custom-house: As she has been loaded some Time, the Cargo may sustain considerable Damage by a much longer Delay. I must therefore beg you will lay this Matter before the Honourable House of Assembly, who, I doubt not, will take the Affair into their Consideration, and extend the Law so as his Majesty's Service may not suffer, which, without Doubt, was their Intention when the Act was made.

As I am unacquainted with the Form of proceeding in such Cases, I hope you will excuse the Freedom of this Application: And believe me, very sincerely,

Sir, your most obedient, and most humble Servant,

To Isaac Norris, *Esq;* JOHN BELL."

And a Member of this House likewise represented and shewed to the House, by sundry Letters and Papers, that he had Orders from the Contractor for supplying his Majesty's Navy at *Jamaica* with Provisions, to ship a Quantity there for that Purpose; which he had accordingly done, and the Vessel had for some Time been ready for sailing, but the Governor had ordered the Collector not to clear her out, by Reason, as he said, that he and his Council were of Opinion, that the late Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, prohibited the same.

The Act *for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions*, &c. being read, and considered,

Resolved, That the said Act is of the same Tenor with the Act of the Government of *New-York*, and was never intended in any wise to restrain the Exportation of Provisions for the Supplying his Majesty's Navy, or Garrisons abroad, and cannot, in our Opinion, be so understood but by the most forced Construction thereof.

Resolved, That to prevent any ill Consequences that may arise from such Interpretation of the said Act, a Bill be immediately prepared at the Table for permitting the Exportation of Provisions, Naval or Warlike Stores, for the Use of his Majesty's Ships or Garrisons.

A Bill, entituled, *A Supplementary Act to a Law of this Province, entituled, An Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of* Pennsylvania, being prepared at the Table, according to the Order of the House, was read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

The House resuming the Consideration of the Bill for granting the Sum of   *Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking the said Sum in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same;

Resolved, That the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds* be inserted in the said Bill as granted to the King's Use at this Time.——And the same was done accordingly.

After some further Time spent in Consideration of the said Bill, and sundry Alterations made therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *Daniel Roberdeau* be added to the Committee for auditing and settling the Public Accounts.

An Account from *John Clark*, of the County of *Lancaster*, Goal-keeper, for the Maintenance of *Peter Grislener*, a suspected *French* Spy, for Six Weeks and one Day, at *Seven Shillings* and *Six-pence per* Week, and for Turnkey's Fees and Mittimus, amounting in the Whole to *Two Pounds Twelve Shillings* and *Seven-pence*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

An Account from *James Wright*, of *Lancaster* County, for Sundries sent as a Present from the Assembly to the Officers under the late General *Braddock*, when at Fort *Cumberland*, and for Flour sent to the Mouth of *Conegocheague* for the Use of the *British* Troops, Expences for Carriage, &c. was laid before the House and Read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

One of the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use by Act of Assembly, laid before the House a Letter which they had received from *Richard Hockley*, one of the Proprietaries Receivers General; and the same being read, is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN, *Philadelphia, July* 1, 1756.

Having been informed that the Money remaining due to you upon the Proprietaries Order for *Five Thousand Pounds* will soon be wanted to answer the Public Service, I think it my Duty to let you know, that notwithstanding all my Care and Diligence to collect in the Arrears of Quitrent, I am not able to discharge the remaining Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* due on that Order, but shall use my best Endeavours to collect it as soon as possible; and in the mean Time, if that Sum could be struck in Bills of Credit, to answer the present Service, they may be sunk out of the Payments to be made from my Office upon that Order. I have consulted the Governor upon this Head, who declares his Readiness to concur with the House of Assembly in a reasonable Bill for that Purpose; And if you, Gentlemen, with whom the Disposition of this Money is intrusted, will do me the Favour to propose the Thing to the House, you will oblige,

To Isaac Norris, James Hamilton, &c. *Commissioners for disposing of the* 60,000 *Pounds.*

Gentlemen, your most obedient humble Servant,

RICHARD HOCKLEY."

And the House taking the same into Consideration.

Ordered, That the said *Richard Hockley* have Leave to bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in the foregoing Letter to the Commissioners.

The Supplementary Bill to a Law of this Province, entituled, *An Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores*, &c. was read the second time, and ordered a third Reading.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use; and after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts reported on *James Wright's* Account, that they had examined the same, and were of Opinion, that a Balance of *Thirty-nine Pounds Five Shillings* and *Five-pence Halfpenny* was due to him from the Province, and ought to be paid by this House.——To which Report the House agreed; and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Committee of Accounts reported on *John Clark's* Account, that they had examined the same, and were of Opinion, That *Five Shillings* and *Six-pence per Week* was a sufficient Charge for the Maintenance of *Peter Grislener*, which, with the Turnkey's Fees, would amount to *One Pound Eighteen Shillings* and *Four-pence.*—And the House agreeing to the said Report, an Order was drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

The Bill, entituled, *A Supplementary Act to a Law of this Province, entituled, An Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of* Pennsylvania, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Daniel Roberdeau* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The House resuming the Consideration of the Governor's Message of the Thirtieth of *June*, and the Proprietary Instruction sent therewith, and his proposed Amendments to the Bill, entituled, *An Act for continuing an Act, entituled, An Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits;* and also reconsidering the Messages between the Governor and Assembly and the other Papers and Transactions during the last Year, in regard to the several Bills presented to the Governor for granting Money to the King's Use; after some considerable Time spent therein, the House came to the following unanimous Resolutions, *viz.*

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that the said Proprietary Instruction was the principal, if not the only, Obstruction to the Passing the several Bills offered to the Governor by the last Assembly for granting Money for the King's Use.

Resolved, That the Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, passed in the Year 1744; and the Act granting *Five Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, passed the 24th of *June*, 1746, by which the said Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, was continued for Ten Years next after the first Day of *June*, 1746, have received the Royal Approbation.

Resolved, That Acts laying an Excise on spirituous Liquors have been found necessary for defraying the Charges of Government, and have been continued within this Province for more than Thirty Years; and that the Governor's not passing the Bill presented to him for continuing the Excise, upon the Terms of all our former Acts, repeatedly approved of by the Crown, from an apprehension that he is restrained by the said Proprietary Instruction, is evasive and frivolous, and an Infringement of our just Rights; and that as Deputy Governor of this Province, he has, or ought to have, full Powers to give his Assent to all such Bills as we have an undoubted Right to offer.

Resolved, That the said Instruction "is not calculated to promote the Happiness and "Prosperity of this Province, and is inconsistent with the Prerogative of the Crown, and the Liberties of the People;" and that all Proprietary Instructions, not warranted by the Laws of *Great-Britain*, are illegal and void in themselves: Nevertheless, if the Governor should apprehend himself bound by such Proprietary Instructions, they may prove ruinous to the Province, and of dangerous Consequence to the *British* Interest in *America*.

Resolved, That the House do adhere to the Bill for continuing the Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, as it now stands, without admitting the Governor's proposed Amendments thereto.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of *Philadelphia*, and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof, with a verbal Message, that he receded from his proposed Amendments to the said Bill, and was ready to pass the same into a law, whenever the House should present it to him for that Purpose.

Ordered, That the said Bill be engrossed.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Supplementary Bill to the Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, report, that they had delivered the same, according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

A Bill for the further continuing an Act, entituled, "An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, Naval or Warlike Stores, from this Province to *Cape-Breton*, or to any other the Dominions of the *French* King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects," was prepared at the Table, by order of the House read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'clock To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That *Joseph James* and *David McConnaughy* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the Bill for continuing the Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, together with a certified Copy of the Resolves of the House thereupon; and acquaint the Governor, that the House request he would be pleased to reconsider the said Bill, and let them know his final Result thereupon as soon as possible.

The Bill for the further continuing the Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, Naval or Warlike Stores to *Cape-Breton*, &c. was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

The Petition from *Joseph Yeates*, now in the Goal of the County of *Philadelphia*, was again read, and considered, and referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for the further continuing an Act, entituled*, "An Act to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, Naval or Warlike Stores from this Province to *Cape-Breton*, or to any other the Dominions of the *French* King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects," being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Joseph James* and *David M'Connaughy* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence; and, besides delivering the Bill and Message they were charged with this Morning, acquaint the Governor, that the House desire to know if he has come to any Result upon the Supplementary Bill to the Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had read the Supplementary Bill to the Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, but had not considered it: Upon which the Members informed the Governor, that the Reason why the House were so anxious to have the said Bill passed, was, because they understood that there were some Vessels now in this Harbour, laden with Provisions for his Majesty's Fleet in the *West-Indies*, and for his Garrisons in *Newfoundland*, ready to fail, but could not obtain a Clearance, as the Law for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions from this Province had been interpreted by the Governor and Council to prohibit the fame. To which the Governor replied, that in Case the Legislature of the Three Lower Counties did not pass an Act to continue the Embargo, the same would expire in a few Days, and then there would be no Necessity for the said Supplementary Act; and if the Embargo Act of the Three Lower Counties should be continued, he would have it in his Power to permit Vessels laden with Provisions or Stores for his Majesty's Service to fail at any Time, by the Bill which the House had sent him for that Purpose.

The Bill for granting the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking the said Sum in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, being read the second time, was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to be replaced by the Receiver General, was brought in, pursuant to the Leave of the House read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Ordered, That *William Hoge* and *John Potts* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of the Sitting on urgent Business.

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to be replaced by the Receiver General, was read the second time, and debated; and, after a considerable Time spent therein, the same was referred to *Joseph Stretch* and *John Hughes*, to be by them altered and amended, agreeable to the Sentiments of the House thereupon.

The following Letter from one of the Proprietaries to their Receivers General was laid before the House and read, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN, *London, October* 4, 1755.

I having acquainted *Robert Hunter Morris*, Esq; by Letter of this Date, that on the present dangerous Situation of our Affairs in *America*, I thought it proper we should shew our Readiness to contribute towards the Public Charge, have resolved to make a free Gift of the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds* Money of *Pennsylvania*, to be paid out of our Arrears of Quitrent; which Sum, I desire you, will pay out of the said Arrears, to such Person or Persons as shall be appointed by the Governor and Assembly to receive the same, and place to the Account of Charges. I am

Your very affectionate Friend,

THOMAS PENN."

To Richard Hockley and Edmund Physick, *Receivers General.*

The following Proposal from sundry Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House and read, *viz.*

To the REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met, *July* 2, 1756.

As we are informed, a Sum of Paper Currency is proposed to be speedily emitted; and knowing the good Disposition of the late Assemblies towards establishing the *Pennsylvania* Hospital; and as the Fund for erecting the same is expended, and the Building unfinished, We, whose Names are underwritten, desire to be nominated and appointed Signers of the said Currency; and whatsoever Sum you shall please to allow for our Service therein, shall wholly be applied towards finishing the said Hospital.

William Grant,
Joseph Richardson,
James Benezet,
Samuel Wharton,
Joseph Wharton, jun.
Daniel Rundle,
Peter Chevalier,
William Hopkins,
Stephen Wooley,
Joshua Howell,
Joseph Galloway,
George Bryan,
Charles Thomson,
Isaac Paschall,
Charles Jones,
John Sayre,
Francis Rawle,
Thomas Wharton,
Joseph Saunders,
Peter Reeve,
Joseph Morris,
Samuel Smith,
John Rhea,
Thomas Smith,
Jacob Cooper,
William Fisher,
Joseph Redman,
Luke Morris."

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Petition from *George Hambleton*, of the County of *Cumberland*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that in *June* 1755, Captain *Ord*, of the Royal Train of Artillery, passed through the said County to the Army, under the Command of the late General *Braddock*, and being informed that the said Army had marched from *Wills's Creek* towards *Monongahela*, he impressed fourteen Horses belonging to the Petitioner and his Neighbours, as appears by the Captain's Certificate, and other Vouchers herewith produced; that at the Time of impressing, and at the *Little-Meadows*, where the Horses were discharged, the said Captain assured the Petitioner, that this was a Provincial Charge, and that the Government of *Pennsylvania* would pay it on seeing his Certificate; that the Petitioner relying on this, applied to Governor *Morris*, when at *Carlisle*, for Payment thereof, and did not then understand that any other Objection was made to the Application, than that the Proofs then produced were not sufficient, the Petitioner therefore, having procured further Proofs, which he hopes will be sufficient humbly prays that this House would examine them, and be pleased to order him Payment.

Ordered, That the said Petition and Account, with the Vouchers, be referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting the Sum of* Forty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking the said Sum in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *John Morton* and *John Wright* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The Committee to whom the Bill for striking the Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to be replaced by the Receiver General, was referred for Amendment, reported the same to the House, with sundry Alterations they had made therein, the Principal of which were in the Title and Preamble.

And the original Title and Preamble to the said Bill, with the Title and Preamble proposed by the Committee, were read, and are as follow, *viz.*

'An Act for striking the Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, to be replaced by the Receiver General.

Whereas the Honourable the Proprietaries of this Province have been pleased to make a free Gift of the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, to be applied towards the Public Charge; and by their Order, dated the Fourth Day of *October* last, did direct their Receiver General, in this Province, to pay the said Sum, out of the Arrears of Quitrent due to them, to such

Persons as should be appointed by the Governor and Assembly to receive the same: And whereas, by an Act of General Assembly of this Province, passed at *Philadelphia* in the Twenty-ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign, entituled, *An Act for granting the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same*, among other Things it was enacted, that the said Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds* should, immediately after the Publication of the said Act, be paid by the Receiver General into the Hands of *Isaac Norris, James Hamilton, John Mifflin* and *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquires, and *Joseph Fox, John Hughes* and *Evan Morgan*, Gentlemen, to be disposed of by them, or the major Part or Survivors of them, with the Consent and Approbation, of the Governor or Commander in Chief of this Province for the Time being, and not otherwise. And whereas the Receiver General hath not yet been able to pay to the said Persons more than the Sum of *One Thousand Pounds*, in Part of the said Order; to the End therefore, that the good Intentions of the Proprietaries in the said Gift may be fully answered, and the Public may receive the immediate Benefit thereof, Be it enacted, *&c.*

An Act for striking the Sum of Four Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and to provide for sinking the same by yearly Payments, to be made by the Proprietary's Receiver General, to the Trustees of the General Loan-Office of this Province, for that Purpose.*

Whereas the Honourable Proprietaries of this Province have been pleased to make a free Gift of the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, to be applied towards the public Charge, in Consideration of being exempted from the Payment of their Taxes towards raising the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, granted by this Assembly to the King's Use. And whereas the *Honourable* THOMAS PENN, by an Order under his Hand (a Duplicate whereof has been delivered to this Assembly by the Receiver General) dated the Fourth day of *October* last, did direct the Receiver General of this Province to pay the said Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds* out of the Arrears of Quitrent due to the said Proprietaries, to such Persons as should be appointed by the Governor and Assembly to receive the same. And whereas by an Act of General Assembly of this Province, passed at *Philadelphia* in the Twenty-ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign, entituled, *An Act for granting the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a*

Fund for sinking the same, among other Things it was enacted and provided, that the said Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds* should, immediately after the Publication of the said Act, be paid by the Receiver General into the Hands of *Isaac Norris, James Hamilton, John Mifflin* and *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquires, and *Joseph Fox, John Hughes* and *Evan Morgan*, Gentlemen, to be disposed of by them, or the major Part or Survivors of them, with the Consent and Approbation of the Governor or Commander in Chief of this Province for the Time being, and not otherwise. And whereas the Receiver General hath not yet paid to the said *Isaac Norris, James Hamilton, John Mifflin, Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Fox, John Hughes* and *Evan Morgan* more than the Sum of *One Thousand Pounds*, in Part of the said *Five Thousand Pounds:* And the said *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds*, granted to the King's Use, being near expended, by the Orders drawn upon the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, and by them paid for the King's Use: To the End therefore that the Proprietaries Gift may be fully answered, and the Public receive the immediate Benefit thereof, Be it enacted, *&c.*"

And the latter Title and Preamble being approved of, and agreed to by the House, the said Bill was read the second time, and ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Eleven o'Clock in the Morning.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should give it all the Dispatch in his Power; but that he could not say when the House might expect to know his Result thereupon, as he was this Day going to *New-Castle*, in order to meet the Assembly of the Three Lower Counties.

The Bill entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Four Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, by yearly Payments to be made by the Proprietaries Receiver General to the Trustees of the General Loan-Office of this Province for that Purpose*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Derrick Hogeland* and *William Edmonds* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence, and acquaint him that the House desire to know whether he will pass into a Law the Bill that has received his Assent, and if he will let the House know his Result upon the Bills under his Consideration before he goes to *New-Castle.*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with a Paper containing some *Indian* Intelligence from *Northampton* County, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'The Secretary will lay before you a Copy of the Intelligence of *Nicodemus* and *Joe Piepe*, two *Indians* that lately came to *Bethlehem* from the Place called *Diahoga*, upon the *Susquehanna*, by which you will see that the Western *Indians* were forming themselves into a Body, with an Intention to attack this Province about the Time of Harvest. This Intelligence I received on *Saturday*, and have dispatched Orders to the Forces to be upon their Guard, and directed them to be thrown into such a Disposition as would most effectually assist and protect the People in their Harvest. If upon Consideration of this Matter any other Measures are necessary for the Public Safety, you will enable me to take them.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1756.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor, with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he did not know of any Bill that was ready to be passed into a Law: That the Members thereupon informed him, that the Bill for regulateing the Watch, and enlightening the Streets of the City, had met with his Approbation, and was ordered to be engrossed, that it might be enacted. To which the Governor replied, that the House had not sent him any Message to acquaint him of their having agreeed to his proposed Amendments to the said Bill, but that he was ready to pass into Laws any Bills that were duly prepared for that Purpose.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee of Accounts made the following Report in Writing, *viz.*

We your Committee having examined the Account of *George Hambleton*, and the Depositions of himself and sundry other Persons, for Horses and Guides impressed by *Robert Chambers*, Esq; for the Use of Captain *Thomas Ord*, and the Detachment of the Royal Artillery, under the Command of the late General *Braddock*, do find the following Sums due to the Persons whose Names are annexed, *viz.*

To *Robert Reynolds*, ...£	3	0	0
To *George Hambleton*, ...	3	0	0
To *Hugh Hunter*, ...	1	16	0
To *Samuel Leard*, ...	1	0	0
Carried over £	8	16	0
Brought over	8	16	0
To *James Brown*, ...	1	0	0
To *William Morehead*, ...	1	0	0
To *Samuel Williamson*, ...	11	0	0
To *William M'Connell*, ...	6	10	0
Which we submit to the House, ...£	28	6	0

Joseph Fox, Joseph Stretch, Richard Pearne.”

Resolved, That the foregoing Accounts be allowed by this House.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same to *Joseph Armstrong*, Representative for the County of *Cumberland*, to be by him paid to the respective Persons above-mentioned.

An Order was likewise drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for *Three Pounds Sixteen Shillings* and *Six-pence*, payable to the said *Joseph Armstrong*, for *John Cox*, of *Cumberland* County, being the Balance of his Account for Services done on the *Ohio* Road.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are of Opinion, that the Supplementary Bill to the Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, which has lain for some time before the Governor for his Concurrence, is a Bill of great Importance to the Supplying his Majesty's Ships and forces with Provisions; and also that the Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, now before the Governor, will, if he passes it, sufficiently enable him to take any Measures that may be necessary on Account of the Intelligence he has received from *Joe Piepe* and *Nicodemus*.

The Gentlemen return, and report, they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he thought there was no immediate Necessity for passing the Supplementary Bill to the Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores, as in case the Assembly of the Three Lower Counties should not continue their Act for laying an Embargo, all the Ports would of Course be open in a Day or two; and if they should prolong the said Act, and this House would send him a Message, expressing their Sentiments concerning the given Liberty to Vessels laden with Provisions and Stores for his Majesty's Service to sail from this Port, he should think himself impowered to let them pass, notwithstanding the Embargo; for that the Reason why he had not permitted such Vessels to clear out hitherto, was, because he thought it a dangerous Precedent for one Branch of the Legislature to dispense with an Act of both: And that as to the Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, he had not read it through, but he thought it stood in Need of Amendment, as did some of the other Bills lying before him.

The Gentlemen likewise reported, that upon the Governor's informing them thât he was just then going to set off for *New-Castle*, to meet the Assembly there, they acquainted him, that as it would be extremely inconvenient to the Country Members to sit together till his Return, the Time of Harvest being now near at Hand, and as there was no Business of Importance but what lay before the Governor, the House had Thoughts of adjourning this Day to the Second Day of the next Month, by which Time they were in Hopes the Harvest would be nearly over; and that the Governor was pleased to say. that he had no Objection to their adjourning over the Harvest, and that he approved of the Time proposed.

Resolved, That any ill Consequences that may attend the Governor's not passing the Bill, entituled, *A Supplementary Act to a Law of this Province, entituled, "An Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of* Pennsylvania," which provides for the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores for the King's Garrisons and Ships abroad, will not lie at the Door of this House.

Then the House adjourned to the Second Day of the next month, called *August*.

The Representatives of the Province having been. by Virtue of the Governor's Writs to the Sheriffs of the several Counties for that Purpose directed, summoned to meet him this Day in Assembly, the House met accordingly.

The Speaker laid before the House a Copy of one of the Writs whereby the House were summoned, which he had received from the Secretary for that Purpose; and the same being read, was ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Daniel Roberdeau* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met in Pursuance of his Writs, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to deliver them a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers therein referred to, and others relating to Public Affairs.

And the same being read, the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'At your Instance I called the Assembly of the Lower Counties, and pressed them to continue the Prohibition of Provisions and Warlike Stores to the Time limited by the Laws of *New-York* and *Jersey*, but they chose only to continue it till the Twentieth Instant, and from thence for so long Time as the Legislature of this Province should pass or continue a Law for the like Purposes, provided the same did not exceed the Twenty-second Day of *October* next.——I am thereby laid under the disagreeable Necessity of calling you together at this busy Season, in order to have the Embargo continued for the same Time that it is in the provinces of *New-York* and *Jersey;* and as the Acts of Assembly passed for the Prohibition of Provisions and Warlike Stores will expire with To-morrow, I hope you will immediately enter upon this Matter, and give it all the Dispatch the Nature of the Thing requires.——The Secretary will lay before you a Copy of the Act of the Lower Counties, and you will, by proper Clauses in the Law you may think it necessary on this Occasion to propose, leave me at Liberty to send Supplies to such of the King's Ships and Forces as may be employed in any Part of *America*, and to put the Trade of this Place, while the Embargo lasts, upon the same Footing it is in the other Bread Colonies.

Philadelphia, July 19, 1756.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Speaker laid before the House the Bill for striking the Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same, by yearly Payments to be made by the Proprietaries Receiver General to the Trustees of the General Loan-Office of this Province for that Purpose, which he informed the House he had received from the Secretary, who said that the Governor was willing to pass the said Bill into a Law, provided the House would agree to leave out the whole Preamble, and let the Bill begin with the enacting Clause.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered, together with the several Papers sent down therewith; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Thomas Leech*, *William Masters*, *Joseph Hamton*, *George Ashbridge*, *James Webb*, *John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the said Message.

The following Petition from sundry Merchants, *&c.* of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, *viz.*

To the Honourable the REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY now sitting.

The PETITION of divers Merchants, Owners and Masters of Vessels, now in the Port of Philadelphia, *in Behalf of themselves, and others interested therein.*

Humbly sheweth,

That your Petitioners, presuming the Embargo laid here the Twenty-third of *May* last on all Vessels loaded with Provisions, would terminate at the Time the Embargo expired in the Government of the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex, on Delaware, to wit*, on the Seventh Instant, did load their respective Vessels, in Part, with Provisions, as is usual in Time of free Trade. That at the Expiration of that Time, your Petitioners, upon Application to the Custom-house for the necessary Clearances, finding that the Governor had lodged Instructions with his Majesty's Collector of this Port, not to clear any Vessels that were so loaded, and since further learning, that the said Government of the Three Lower Counties have lately extended their Act to the Twentieth Instant, and for such further Time as shall be thought necessary by this Government, therefore take this Liberty humbly to represent the great Loss which your Petitioners conceive will be sustained not only by the Owners of the Vessels so loaded, victualled and manned, lying in Port at great Expence, but by the Proprietors of the perishable Provisions on board such Vessels, many of whom are young Traders, and not able to bear so heavy a Loss, as likewise by the Trading Part of this Province in general, which must very shortly be felt in a severe and sensible Manner, in Case the Prohibition should continue a longer Time than by a late Law of this Province is directed, as the Cargoes already shipped may very probably perish (more especially at this Season of the Year) and a general Stagnation of Trade must ensue, Provisions being our Staple; besides the great Loss and Disadvantage to the Province for Want of a due Circulation of Cash.

That your Petitioners, notwithstanding the Premises, should not have presumed to have troubled your Honourable House therewith, were they convinced it was really necessary for his Majesty's Service that the Embargo should be continued, and that this Province was on an equal Footing with his Majesty's other Colonies to the Northward and Southward; for as to the former, your Petitioners apprehend it will rather tend to the Distress of his Majesty's Subjects in the Islands, who, your Petitioners think, by the Time the Vessels might arrive, may be in Want of Provisions; and as to the latter, *Boston* has little to export of Provisions, save Fish, which is excepted in their Embargo; and *New-York*, great Part of their Produce is taken off by the Army, by which Means they have a tolerable Market; and if the Embargo is to continue here till it is certainly known to be off there, that Colony will have greatly the Advantage of this Place, as they will have the Start, and may make the best Part of their Passage, before your Petitioners are advised thereof, and consequently take the best of the Markets from your Petitioners.

Your Petitioners further pray Leave to observe, that as to the Southern Colonies, *viz. Virginia* and *Maryland*, their Ports have been free for Provisions a long Time past, and now are, as your Petitioners are informed; and it is well known, the latter Province raises great Crops of Grain, and that their Exports, in the Provision Way, are very considerable; so that this Province appears abundantly the most distressed at present in its Trade; and if the Embargo is continued a much longer Time, this Province will be in very calamitous Circumstances.

That as a War with *France* is generally believed to be actually declared in *England*, and daily expected here, such Vessels as are now ready to sail, have a tolerable Prospect of safe Passages, the Risk at present not being so hazardous as it must consequently be a While hence; so that it detained much longer, the Danger of the Enemies Privateers on this Coast will be considerably encreased, your Petitioners having great Reason to believe and expect a Visit in that Way. That the Trade of *Lisbon*, *Madeira* and *Cadiz* hath oftentimes heretofore proved of great Advantage, in taking off a considerable Quantity of the Produce of this Province, and may now be carried on without interfering with the Intent of a Prohibition, an Interruption to which may be of considerable Prejudice to this Trade, more especially as a constant Bounty of at least *Five Shillings per* Quarter is granted by Act of Parliament on the Exportation of Wheat from *Great-Britain:* Certificates may be produced from the Consuls of those Places for the Delivery of the Cargoes there, for which your Petitioners are willing to give Security upon clearing at the Custom-house here.

That your Petitioners, with great Submission, conceive Bonds, with sufficient Penalties, may effectually prevent any Trade with the *Dutch*, or Neutral Islands, by which Channel the *French* have had Supplies of Provisions; and as a War with *France* must of Course stop all immediate Trade from hence to the *French* Islands, our Enemies cannot obtain Supplies, unless from the *English* Islands in such Case the Fault must lie with them; and as your Petitioners presume, the Governor's of those *English* Islands have proper Instructions on that Head, hope, if any Neglect of Duty happen there, your Petitioners may not suffer for other than their own Conduct.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly address this Honourable House, that you will be pleased to take under your most serious Consideration their present distressed Circumstances (especially such whose Vessels are, and have been, a considerable Time loaded, and those whose Cargoes are ready to put on board) and afford them such Relief and Assistance therein as you in your Wisdom shall judge most expedient, in nowise doubting your ready and hearty Disposition towards the general Good and Service of your Country; and your Petitioners will ever pray, *&c.*"

Ordered to lie on the Table.

A Public News-paper, printed in *England*, entituled, "The Evening Advertiser, No. 334. From *Saturday, April* 17, to *Tuesday, April* 20, 1756," containing an Extract of a Letter from a Correspondent at *Philadelphia*, dated *February* 23, 1756, and signed *W. Smith*, was laid before the House, read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, it was *Resolved*, That the said Extract of a Letter contains divers wicked Calumnies against Numbers of sober and valuable Inhabitants of this Province, and likewise most infamous, libellous, false and scandalous Assertions against the two Branches of the Legislature of this Province.

And it being represented to the House, that it is highly probable that one *William Smith*, now Provost of the College in *Philadelphia*, is the Author of the before-mentioned *Extract of a Letter;* it was thereupon

Ordered, That the Speaker do forthwith issue his Order to the Serjeant at Arms, requiring him to bring the said *William Smith* to the Bar of this House, at Five o'Clock this Afternoon, to answer such Questions as shall then and there be put to him.

And the Speaker issued his Order to the Serjeant at Arms accordingly.

Then the House adjourned at Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed that *William Smith*, Provost of the College of *Philadelphia*, attended at the Door, in Custody of the Serjeant at Arms,

Ordered, That the said *Smith* be brought to the Bar of this House, and that the Speaker do demand of him, whether he is the Author of the Extract of a Letter which was read to the House this Morning.

He was accordingly brought to the Bar, and the said Extract of a Letter read to him, and then put into his Hands for his Perusal. After which the Speaker interrogated him as follows; to which he made the Answers respectively subjoined, *viz.*

1. Whether he had wrote any Letter, dated on or about the Twenty-third of *February*, 1756, or at any other Time, of which, from the Tenor thereof, the Paper now read to him could be an Extract?

Answ. *'Tis not to be supposed that I can be prepared to answer this House, whether I have wrote any Letter, on or about* 23*d of* February, 1756, *or at any other Time, of which, from the Tenor thereof, the Paper referred to could be an Extract; as the Question, in my Opinion, supposes that I can remember the Tenor of all the Letters I have wrote.*

2. Q. Whether, to the best of his Memory, he did, or did not, write any such Letter, on or about the Date specified in the first Question, or at any other Time?

Answ. *I do not conceive that I ought to charge my Memory with any Thing of that Nature; nor do I conceive that I am obliged in Law to make any other Answer than what I have already done.*

And the House not thinking it necessary to ask the said *Smith* any more Questions at this Time, he was ordered to withdraw. But he having before he went desired that he might have a Copy of the Questions which the Speaker had asked him, and his Answers thereto, also a Copy of the Order to the Serjeant at Arms for bringing him to the Bar of the House, the Clerk was directed to make out the said Copies, and deliver them to him accordingly.

The House taking into Consideration the Answers given by the said *William Smith*, to the Questions put to him by the Speaker, unanimously

Resolved, That the said Answers are trifling and evasive, and plainly indicate him to be the Author of the "*Extract of a Letter from a Correspondent at* Philadelphia, *dated* February 23, 1756," which was published in the *Evening Advertiser*, No. 334.

Resolved, That as this House have Matters of considerable Moment before them at this Time, and can stay but a little While together, that all further Proceedings in Relation to the said *Smith*, be postponed to a more convenient Opportunity.

Ordered, That the said *William Smith* be therefore discharged out of the Custody of the Serjeant at Arms, for the present.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, with some Amendments, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Which being accordingly done, it was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

On the 4th of *May*, 1756, the Legislature of *New-York* passed an Act to revive an Act more effectually to restrain the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from that Colony, to be in Force for Twenty-one Days, and after that Time to such Time as the Legislature of *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* should pass Acts for like Purposes, provided those Acts did not exceed three Months from the Passing of that Act, which was from the Fourth of *May* to the Fourth of *August* next ensuing.

Sir *Charles Hardy* having recommended to our Governor, that he should lay before the Assembly of this province, the Necessity of enacting a Law of the same Tenor within this Government; and the House being convinced that such an Act would be totally useless, unless the Three Lower Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex* (not subject to our Laws) were included, passed an Act on the Thirteenth of *May*, of the same Tenor, and nearly in the same Words, with the Act of *New-York*, to be in Force till the Seventh of *June*. and from thence for so long Time as the Legislatures of the Colony *New-Jersey*, and the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, upon *Delaware*, should respectively pass Laws for the like Purposes, provided they exceeded not the Time limited by the Law of *New-York* Government.

On the Twenty-ninth of *May* the Legislature of *New-Jersey* passed an Act, to be in Force from the First Day of *June* to the First Day of *August*, and from thence for so long Time as the Legislatures of the Colonies of *New-York* and *Pennsylvania* should respectively pass Laws for the like Purposes, provided they did not exceed Three Months from the said First Day of *August*.

This being the State of the Laws laying an Embargo on the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores; first, by the Colony of *New-York* on the Fourth, then by this Government on the Thirteenth, and by *New-Jersey* the Twenty-ninth of *May* last; it is most unkind, and give us Leave to say, in our Opinion, unbecoming the Dignity of Government, that in the Governor's last Message he should not take the least Notice of any Law being ever passed by us for laying any Embargo within this Port, but only mentions his having pressed the Assembly of the Lower Counties "to continue the Prohibition of Provisions and Warlike Stores, to the Time limited by the Laws of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*," as if no such Law had ever been passed by himself within this Province! What Purpose such a Conduct towards us is to answer, the Governor best knows.—But when he proceeds in his said Message to propose to us "to have the Embargo continued for the *same Time* that it is in the Provinces of *New-York* and *Jersey*," we must confess we are entirely at a Loss to know what the Governor would mean, our present Act coming precisely within the Governor's Recommendation; being made in Compliance with the Law of *New-York*. If the Lower Counties have not complied with those Terms, it is not to be imputed to the Assembly of this Province, who have fully discharged their Part to make the Embargo effectual.

We entreat the Governor to consider and reflect on the Share he has had in the Laws of the Lower Counties, passed by himself, which seem calculated to give this House unnecessary Trouble to no good Purpose whatever: For now when he has thought fit to call us together in the Height of our Harvests, our Servants generally taken from us, and the Country in Want of Labourers, What has the Governor been pleased to propose, but to pass an Act to continue the Embargo "for the same Time that it is in the Provinces of *New-York* and *Jersey*," which is the Tenor and Limitation of our present Act, it being to have continued (had the Lower Counties passed their Acts in Conformity with the Laws of *New-York*, as this Province and *New-Jersey* had already done) to the Fourth Day of *August*. And as *New-York* has not extended their Act, that we know of (which will probably become unnecessary on the Proclamation of a War with *France*, now daily expected) any new Act we could make would only be to continue the Act of this Province to the Time it was to continue; which is such an Absurdity as we presume on Reflection the Governor will not insist upon.

But that no Time might intervene, whereby the *French* might be supplied with Provisions or Warlike Stores from this Province, we, at our last Sitting, put into the Governor's Hands a Bill "to continue the Act for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, Naval or Warlike Stores, from this Province to *Cape-Breton*, or to any other the Dominions of the *French* King, or Places at present in Possession of any of his Subjects," to prevent, as much as lay in our Power, any Deficiencies which might arise from the Conduct of the Assembly of the Three Lower Counties, if they should think fit to invalidate the Acts of the other Colonies for laying a general Embargo.

At the same Time we also sent up a Bill entituled, *A Supplementary Act to a Law of this Province, entituled, An Act for the more effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of* Pennsylvania; which Bill, if the Governor had passed it at the Time it was sent to him by the House, or if he should hereafter be pleased to give his Assent thereto, would prevent all Doubts, and give full Liberty to send Supplies "to such of the King's Ships and Forces as may be employed in any Part of *America*;" and we have never endeavoured to put the Trade of this Place, where the Interest or Dignity of the Crown is concerned, on any other Footing than it is in the other Colonies."

And the said Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *John Potts* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, together with the Bill for striking the Sum of *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and to provide for sinking the same by yearly Payments to be made by the Proprietaries Receiver General, and acquaint him, that the House think it highly necessary that there should be some Preamble to the said Bill, otherwise those who are not particularly acquainted with our Affairs may imagine that the Proprietaries have thereby given *Four Thousand Pounds* over and above the *Five Thousand Pounds* specified in the Act for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use; the House therefore propose, that since the Governor is averse to having it mentioned in the Preamble that the said *Five Thousand Pounds* was given by the Proprietaries in Consideration of their being exempted from the Payment of their Taxes towards raising the aforesaid Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, although the same is expressly declared in that Act, without any Objection having been made thereto by the Governor at the Time it was passed, they will leave out the first Clause of the Preamble, namely, from the Word [*Whereas*] to the Word [*Use*] both inclusive, and instead thereof insert the following Clause, *viz.*

"*Whereas the Honourable Proprietaries of this Province have been pleased to make a free Gift of the Sum of* Five Thousand Pounds, *for the Purposes and in the Manner particularly set forth by an Act of General Assembly of this Province, passed in the Twenty-ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign, entituled,* An Act for granting the Sum *of Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and for striking *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, after reading the Message, that he believed the House had misunderstood his Message; that he had no Intentions of disobliging them, and that he was sorry to see they had taken any Offence; however, as he was about leaving the Government, he should not return any Answer to it; and that as to the Bill for striking *Four Thousand Pounds*, to be replaced by the Proprietaries Receiver General, he thought the House gave a good Reason why there should be some Preamble to the said Bill, and that he would take the one proposed into Consideration, and let the House know his Result thereupon some Time this Day.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Minutes of Council relating to *Indian* Affairs, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

'You will see, by the *Indian* Minutes, which the Secretary will lay before you, that our good Friend and faithful Messenger, Captain *Newcastle*, is returned from *Diahoga*, and has brought to *Bethlehem* a Number of the *Susquehanna Indians*, and the *Delaware* King *Teedyuscung;* from whom I have received a Message expressing his Satisfaction with what has been transacted by Captain *Newcastle*, and telling me that he waits for my coming to him.

'You will observe by Sir *William Johnson's* Letter to General *Abercrombie*, giving an Account of his Proceedings at *Onondago*, which I laid before you, that by Means of the *Six Nations* such of the *Delawares* as attended that Meeting have already laid down the Hatchet, and engaged to follow the Example of the *Six Nations*, and assist us against the *French*.

'As there is the greatest Reason to think, as well from Sir *William Johnson's* Transactions, and the Message from *Teedyuscung*, as from what Captain *Newcastle* has communicated in Council, that the *Delaware* King, and People living on the River *Susquehanna*, are in a good Disposition to return to their Alliance and former Friendship with us, I think so favourable an Opportunity of fixing those People in our Interest should not be neglected. I therefore recommend it to you to make Provision for the Expence that will attend the Conferences upon this Occasion, and for fulfilling such Engagements as the present Exigencies may make it necessary for me to enter into, in which you may be assured I shall have a particular Regard to the Honour and Safety of the Province.

Philadelphia, July 21, 1756. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

The Secretary likewise brought down the following Letter from General *Shirley* to the Governor, which was read, *viz.*

SIR, *New-York, July* 13, 1756.

Some Days ago I had the Honour to receive at *Albany* two Letters from the Right Honourable Mr. *Fox*, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, dated the 13th and

31st of *March* last, acquainting me in the former with his Majesty's Appointment of the Earl of *Loudon* to be General and Commander in Chief of his Forces in *North-America;* and in the latter signifying to me, that it having been "represented to the King, that my Presence in *England* may be very useful and necessary to his Majesty's Service at this Time, on Account of my being able to give many Lights and Informations relative to the State of Affairs in *North-America*, it was his Majesty's Pleasure, that I should repair to *England* with all possible Expedition:" And that, for that Purpose, his Majesty had given Directions to the Lords of the Admiralty, who have ordered, a Frigate to receive me on board, and proceed with me directly to *England*. And I have the Pleasure of being acquainted in the former of these Letters, that the Disposition his Majesty has thought proper to make of the Command of his Forces in *North-America*, is not owing to any Dissatisfaction with my Services; but that on the contrary, it is the King's Intention to give me a new Mark of his Royal Favour.

As I think it not improper for me to give your Honour, and the Province under your Government, this Notice of my Departure for *England*, so I am desirous of taking this Opportunity to acknowledge the repeated Instances of their contributing towards the Defence of his Majesty's just Rights and Dominions in the Expedition against *Crown-Point*, by their Grant of Provisions and Cloathing for the Men employed in it; to assure them of my best Wishes for their Welfare, and that of his Majesty's other Northern Colonies; and that I shall think myself happy in being able, upon my Arrival in *England*, to give such Lights and Informations, relative to the State of Affairs in *North-America* at this most critical Conjuncture, as may best promote his Majesty's Service, and the general Interests of his Subjects there. I am, with great Regard and Esteem.

Sir, your Honour's most humble,
and most obedient Servant,
W. SHIRLEY."

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, *Esq;*

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the Bill for striking *Four Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and to provide for sinking the same by yearly Payments to be made by the Proprietaries Receiver General, with a Paper proposing to leave out the three first Clauses of the Preamble to the said Bill, namely from the Word [*Whereas*] to the Word [*otherwise*] both inclusive, and instead thereof insert the following Clause, *viz.*

'Whereas the Honourable the Proprietaries of this Province have been pleased to make a free Gift of the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, to be applied towards the Public Charges, which Sum, by an Act of General Assembly of this Province, passed in the Twenty-ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign, entituled, *An Act for granting the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same*, is directed and appointed to be paid by the Receiver General into the Hands of *Isaac Norris, James Hamilton, John Mifflin* and *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquires, and *Joseph Fox, John Hughes* and *Evan Morgan*, Gentlemen, to be laid out for his Majesty's Use in the Manner therein prescribed.'

And the said proposed Preamble being read, and considered, was unanimously rejected by the House.

Ordered, That *Mahlon Kirkbride* and *James Webb* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House do not incline to accept of the Governor's proposed Preamble to the Bill for striking *Four Thousand Pounds*, &c. but are willing to pass the said Bill into a Law with the Preamble sent up to the Governor Yesterday; and further, that they enquire if the Governor hath come to any Result upon the Bill for continuing the Excise, and the Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use.

The Letter from General *Shirley* to the Governor being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch, William Masters, Jonathan Ingham, Joseph Gibbons, Emanuel Carpenter, John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Address to the said General, expressing the Sense this House has of the Services which he has done the *British* Colonies in general, and returning him Thanks for the repeated Instances of his Justice towards the Inhabitants of this Province in particular.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for striking *Four Thousand Pounds*, &c. and the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had already given the House an Answer as to the Bill for continuing the Excise, and that he could not, nor would not, pass it otherwise than as he had amended it; and that he had considered the Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and should let the House know his Result thereupon this Afternoon.

The Governor's Message of this Morning being again read, and considered,

Ordered, That *John Hughes* and *William Masters* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know what Sum he thinks will be sufficient to discharge the Expences of the proposed Conference with the *Indians* now at *Bethlehem*.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the Bill for striking *Forty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, with a Paper containing sundry proposed Amendments thereto; which being read, and considered,

Resolved, That this House will adhere to the said Bill as it now stands, without admitting any of the Governor's proposed Amendments thereto.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he had made no Calculation of the Expences likely to attend the proposed Conference, so he could not tell what it would amount to, but it seemed to him that about *Four or Five Hundred Pounds* might be sufficient; and that the Expences would be the greater, as he should be obliged to have a Body of Soldiers to guard him.

The Gentlemen likewise reported, that they enquired of the Governor if he intended to take any of his Council with him, and whether it would be agreeable to him to be accompanied by any of the Members of Assembly; to which he replied, that he believed he should take some of the Council with him, and that he should be glad of the Company of any of the Members of Assembly that would think proper to attend the Conference.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The following Account from the Commissioners for disposing of the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted to the King's Use by Act of Assembly, was laid before the House by one of the said Commissioners, and read, *viz.*

Dr. COMMISSIONERS, 1756.

To Sundry Orders drawn on the Trustees of the General Loan-Office for the King's Use, ...	£ 54,983	0	0

	£	s.	d.
To Ditto on *Richard Hockley* (Receiver General)	1,059	6	0
To Balance	3,957	14	0
	£60,000	0	0

To the Province of Pennsylvania, *Cr.* 1756.

	£	s.	d.
By *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* deposited in the Hands of the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, to be disposed of by the Governor and Commissioners for the King's Use, ...	£ 55,000	0	0
By the Proprietary's Donation, ...	5,000	0	0
	£60,000	0	0

N. B. Of the above Balance of *Three Thousand Nine Hundred* and *Fifty-seven Pounds* and *Fourteen Shillings* the Sum of *Three Thousand Nine Hundred* and *Forty Pounds Fourteen Shillings* is of the Money given by the Proprietaries, not yet in the Receivers Hands, and therefore not immediately in our Power; but we are of Opinion, that even upon a Supposition that it was, the Debts now necessarily owing by the Commissioners for the King's Service, and for which we are called on, now does, or by the First of the next Month will, amount to a greater Sum.

July 22, 1756.

JAMES HAMILTON,
JOHN MIFFLIN,
JOSEPH FOX,
EVAN MORGAN,
JOHN HUGHES."

The Governor's Message relating to the proposed Conference being again read, and considered,

Resolved, That *Joseph Fox* and *William Edmonds*, with the Speaker (if his Health will permit) be appointed to accompany the Governor to the said proposed Conference; and that a Sum not exceeding *Three Hundred Pounds* be allowed by this House to defray the Expences attending the said Conference.

Ordered, That *Thomas Leech*, *William Masters*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *James Webb*, *John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's last Message, and report the same to the House.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Address to General *Shirley*, reported the same to the House, and it was read, and agreed to as follows, *viz.*

To Major-General WILLIAM SHIRLEY, *Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of* Massachusetts-Bay, *in* New-England, *&c.*

The ADDRESS of the REPRESENTATIVES of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in ASSEMBLY met.

Our Governor having laid before this House the General's Letter, dated at *New-York*, on the Thirteenth Instant, we find that he has been pleased "to give Notice to this Government of his intended Departure for *England*, and his being desirous to take the Opportunity to acknowledge the repeated Instances of our contributing towards the Defence of his Majesty's just Rights and Dominions in the Expedition against *Crown-Point*, by our Grant of Provisions and Cloathing for the Men employed in it; and that upon his Arrival in *England* he shall think himself happy in being able to give such Lights and Informations, relative to the State of Affairs in *North-America*, as may best promote his Majesty's Service, and the general Interest of his Subjects in these Parts."

The Candour with which the General has been pleased to express himself towards us in particular, and his Concern for the Colonies in general, are agreeable to his known Benevolence and Public Spirit. And we can have no Doubt but that his Care of the Northern Colonies, his great Experience in *American* Affairs, the constant Application of his Thoughts for their Protection, his several judicious Plans and Undertakings to reduce the *French* Power, and the Zeal which he has demonstrated for his Majesty's Service, by exposing his Person at a Time of Life which might otherwise naturally and reasonably induce him to seek Repose, will, among his other distinguished Merits highly recommend him to the Royal Favour.

The Justice he has formerly done the Assemblies of this Province, in a Letter to one of their Members, and this fresh Instance of the same Disposition of Mind, is becoming his established Character, and is the more acceptable to us, as we have frequently, though in vain, sought that Justice where we had an undoubted Right to ask and expect it.

That the Almighty God may be pleased to protect him through his intended Voyage, and prosper his further Designs for the Public Welfare; and that the Decline of his Life may be attended with that Dignity and Ease which the important Stations he has filled and discharged with so much Honour justly entitle him to, are the sincere Wishes of the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of *Pennsylvania*."

Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed, and signed by the Speaker, and transmitted to *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq; a Member of this House, now at *New-York*, to be by him delivered to General *Shirley*, in the Name and Behalf of this House.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

Resolved, That this House will this Day adjourn to the 16th Day of the next Month.

The Message to the Governor being transcribed, was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

It is very agreeable to us to find by the Governor's Message, "That by the Means of the *Six Nations*, such of the *Delawares*, as attended the late Meeting with Sir *William Johnson*, have already laid down the Hatchet, and engaged to follow the Example of the *Six Nations*, and assist us against the *French;* and that the *Delaware* King and People living on the River *Susquehanna* are in a good Disposition to return to their Alliance and former Friendship with us." And in this critical Juncture, when a happy Issue of a Treaty with the *Indians* must be of so great Advantage to the Proprietary Interest, as we apprehend the present Treaty must be, we cannot suffer ourselves to doubt their Willingness to contribute towards the heavy Expences the Province groans under for *Indian* Affairs; especially considering the Governor has just now refused to pass our Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, because the Proprietary Estate was therein taxed, in common with all the other Estates in this Province, for their mutual Defence; and has also refused to continue our Excise Act, some Time since expired; so that the Province is greatly indebted, and our only remaining Fund reduced to the lowest Extremity.

Under these Circumstances we made Application to the Commissioners, appointed by the Act for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to know whether any Money remained in their Hands, which might be applied to the present Emergency; but we find, that the *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds*, to be sunk by the Provincial Tax, is expended; that near *Four Thousand* (Part of the *Five Thousand*) *Pounds* given by the Proprietaries, in Consideration of their being exempted from their Share of that Tax, is not paid into the Commissioners Hands; and if the whole Sum was paid, the Debts, already contracted for the Defence of the Province, are nearly equal thereto. Nevertheless, as we apprehend the Treaty proposed to be held with the *Susquehanna Indians*, and the *Delaware* King *Teedyuscung*, may be attended with lasting good Consequences, we have resolved, that the Sum of *Three Hundred Pounds* be allowed by this House for that Purpose.

As the Governor has signified, that it would be agreeable to him, if some of the Members of this House would undertake the Journey with him, we have nominated *Joseph Fox* and *William Edmonds*, with the Speaker (if his Health will admit) to accompany the Governor, and such of his Council, as he may think fit to take with him to the proposed Conference; and we hope they may be of Service in conducting the Treaty to a happy Issue."

And the same being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Griffith Owen* and *Emanuel Carpenter* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same, and acquaint him, that the House incline to adjourn to the Sixteenth Day of the next Month, if he hath no Objection thereto.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, after perusing the same, that he should not engage for the Proprietaries contributing any Thing towards the Expences that may attend the proposed Conference; that as the House had voted *Three Hundred Pounds* for that Purpose, he should wait at *Easton* or *Bethlehem* till the Whole was expended, then take his Horse and ride away to *New-York* to meet Lord *Loudon;* and that as to the Time of Adjournment, he should not say whether he was pleased or displeased with it, but leave it entirely with the House to do as they pleased.

Then the House adjourned to the Sixteenth Day of the next Month called *August.*

The House met pursuant to their Adjournment.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *John Hughes* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House are met, according to their Adjournment, and ready to receive any Thing he may have to lay before them.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he should send a Message to the House this Morning.

The Governor, by *William Peters*, Esq; sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"The Money heretofore granted for the Defence of the Province being expended, it will be impossible to keep the Troops posted on the Frontiers together without their Pay: I therefore recommend it to you to enter upon the Consideration of this Matter without Delay, and to grant such Supplies as his Majesty's Service and the Safety of the Province at this Time require. What makes this the more necessary is, the Number of *French* and *Indians* that are now on our Borders, a Body of whom, under a *French* Officer, have taken and burnt Fort *Granville*, on the *Juniata*, one of our most considerable Forts on the Western Frontier; while others of them are murdering the Inhabitants, and laying waste the Country.

The People, to the West of *Susquehanna*, distressed by the frequent Incursions of the Enemy, and weakened by their great Losses, are moving into the interior Parts of the Province; and I am fearful that whole Country will be evacuated, if timely and vigorous Measures are not taken to prevent it.

Major *Rutherford*, the Commanding Officer, in this Province, of his Majesty's *Royal American Regiment* now raising, has applied to me for some Place in or near this City, where the Men belonging to that Corps may be lodged together, that they may receive the King's Provisions, be taught the Use of Arms, and brought under proper Discipline, which he thinks is impossible to accomplish while they remain scattered in different Places. As there are at present no Houses proper for the Reception of Troops, I must recommend it to you to enable me to erect a Number of Barracks in some convenient Place sufficient for the Reception of a Thousand Men, there being already above Five Hundred raised in this Province, and about the same Number daily expected hither from *Europe*. And as great Numbers of the Men raised in the Province are indentured Servants, I must again recommend it to you to make Provision, agreeable to his Majesty's

Directions, for the Payment of their Masters the Value of their Time they had to serve, that the Furnishing Men for his Majesty's Service may not fall too heavy upon Particulars.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

Philadelphia, August 16, 1756.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered; and after some Time spent therein,

Resolved, That the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds* be at this Time granted to the King's Use.

Ordered, That *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Wright*, *John Wright*, *John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for the Purpose of the foregoing Resolve, and likewise to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of an Answer to the Governor's Message, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, with some Alterations, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be sent up to the Governor.

And the same being accordingly done, it was again read, and is as follows. *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

The House have repeatedly offered the Governor Bills for granting considerable Sums to the King's Use, to which he has refused his Assent, being restrained by the Proprietaries, as he says, from passing any Bills in which their Estate is to be taxed towards its Defence. We know of no equitable Way of raising such large Sums as are now necessary, but by a general Tax on all Estates, real and personal. We have voted another Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds*, to be raised in that Manner, and are preparing a new Bill to lay before the Governor for that Purpose. But as we are, and must be still, of Opinion, that the Proprietary Estates ought to be taxed in common with those of their Fellow-Subjects in all the rest of the King's Dominions, for their common Defence, we cannot omit a Clause of that Kind in our Bill, without Injustice to the King's other Subjects, ourselves, our Constituents and Posterity; and we believe, that an equal Number of Men, of any Sect, Nation, Name or Party among us, will never be chosen to represent the Province, who would be of a different Sentiment in this Particular.

In the mean Time, we earnestly request the Governor would use his Influence with the Proprietaries Receiver General, to induce him to pay the remaining Sum of near *Thre Thousand Pounds*, yet behind of their Contribution of *Five Thousand Pounds*, which by Law was to have been immediately advanced, but is still withheld from the Commissioners, to the Injury of the poor Soldiers, whose Pay is in Arrear for Want of that Money, the *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* we granted by the said Bill for the King's Use being expended.

We are sensibly affected with the distressed State of our Frontier Inhabitants; though we apprehend they are in a much better Situation than those of the neighbouring Provinces, who are equally near the Enemy. And we hope they may be rendered still more secure, by a vigorous Exertion of the Force now on Foot for their Protection, and the Annoyance of the Enemy.

The other Matters recommended to us by the Governor, we will take into Consideration, and hope we may be able to do therein, whatever ought to be expected of us."

The foregoing Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *George Ashbridge* and *John Wright* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Upon an Application of one *Samuel Gwin*, who was lately wounded by the *Indians*, on the Frontiers of *Northampton* County, the House agreed to allow him *Three Pounds* in Consideration thereof; and the Trustees of the Loan-Office were ordered to pay the same.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of Yesterday, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order.

Ordered, That *George Ashbridge* have Leave to be absent, on urgent Business, till the End of the Week.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed, that the Gentleman who is appointed to succeed our present Governor, is now on the Road hither from *New York*, and will be in Town some Time To-morrow, adjourned to Five o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

WILLIAM DENNY, Esq; Governor.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Speaker laid before the House a Letter he had just received from the Mayor of the City of *Philadelphia*, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

Mr. *Speaker*, *Philadelphia, Friday, August* 20, 1756.

SIR,

In the Name of the Corporation I request the Favour of your and the Members of Assembly's Company to dine with them at the Lodge To-morrow: And I request in their Name, you will from the Chair acquaint the Members therewith.

For Isaac Norris, *Esq; Speaker of the Assembly of* Pennsylvania.

I am your very humble Servant,
WILLIAM PLUMSTED, *Mayor*."

The Members present agreed to dine with the Corporation, agreeable to their Invitation.

Ordered, That the Clerk do speak to some suitable Person to provide a handsome Dinner on next *Second-day*, at the State-house; and that the present and late Governor, the Governor's Council, Mayor and Corporation, Officers Civil and Military, Clergy, and Strangers, now residing in this City, be invited thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Sarah Morrows*, of *Cumberland* County, praying for some Relief in her present distressed Circumstances, occasioned by her Husband having been killed by the *Indians*, was presented to the House and read. *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

Ordered, That *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Dicks*, *James Webb*, *John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare a Draught of a congratulatory Address to the Honourable WILLIAM DENNY, Esq; upon his safe Arrival, and Accession to this Government.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a congratulatory Address to the Governor, reported the same to the House, and it was read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be presented to the Governor.

Resolved, N. C. D. That the Sum of *Six Hundred Pounds* be at this Time paid, out of the Provincial Treasury, to the Honourable WILLIAM DENNY, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of this Province.

And an Order was accordingly drawn on the Treasurer, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment of the same.

VOTES *of the* ASSEMBLY.

The Address to the Governor being transcribed, it was again read, and is as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and of the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*,

The ADDRESS of the REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the said Province of *Pennsylvania*, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met.

May it please the GOVERNOR,

We are sincerely thankful to Almighty God, that he has been pleased to protect the Governor through the Dangers of the Sea, and bring him in Safety to his Government. We heartily congratulate him on his Accession; and hope, from the excellent Character we have received of him, his Administration will be as happy for the Province, as we shall endeavour to make it easy and comfortable to himself."

And the said Address being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That the Speaker, with the whole House, wait upon the Governor, and present the same, together with the Order of the House for *Six Hundred Pounds*.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

The Speaker reported, that the House had waited on the Governor, and presented their Address, to which he was pleased to make the following Answer, *viz.*

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,*

"I am extremely obliged to you for your very affectionate Address, and have the Honour to assure you, that I am sincerely disposed to do every Thing in my Power, that may promote the Happiness, and tend to the Security and Protection of the People of this Province."

The Speaker likewise reported, that he had at the same Time presented the Governor with the Order for *Six Hundred Pounds*, who was pleased to say, he returned the House his Thanks for that Mark of their Respect.

Ordered, That the Clerk do cause a Set of the old Votes of Assembly, lately published in three Volumes, to be neatly bound, and presented to the Governor.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor requires the Attendance of the House, in the Council Chamber, immediately."

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor; and being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited upon the Governor, who was pleased to make a Speech to this House, a Copy of which he had delivered to the Speaker.

The Governor's Speech was read at the Table, by Order, and follows in these Words, *viz.*

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

"The Honourable the Proprietaries, on the Resignation of Mr. *Morris*, having been pleased, with his Majesty's Royal Approbation, to appoint me to the Government of this Province, and the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, on Delaware, I am glad of the Opportunity of meeting you thus early in Assembly, at a Time when the distressed Situation of the Affairs of this Province so loudly calls for your immediate Aid and Assistance.

I am firmly persuaded, that nothing can so much recommend me to his Majesty and the Proprietaries, as the Protecting this Province from the deep laid Designs, and open Attacks, of the Enemy, and the Supporting the People in the Enjoyment of their Civil and Religious Rights; which Duty, as well as my own Inclination, on every Occasion, will lead me to.

You cannot but have observed that his Majesty, in his Declaration of War, hath assigned the *French* Encroachments in *America*, particularly in that Part of the *Ohio* lying within the Limits of this Province, as the principal Cause of his entering into this just and necessary War; and therefore it is particularly incumbent on you to exert yourselves in the Support of such Measures as have been, or shall be, concerted for carrying on the same with Vigour.

Since my Arrival among you, I have made it my particular Business to enquire into the State of the Frontiers, and have heard with Horror the Devastations, Cruelties, and Murders that have been committed there.

As I am informed that the Money heretofore raised is not only quite exhausted, but that there are considerable Sums in

Arrear to the Forces stationed on the Borders in the Pay of the Province, who must be immediately disbanded, and the Back Inhabitants left naked and defenceless to a savage and merciless Enemy, unless fresh Supplies are quickly raised for their Support; I must recommend this Matter, in the warmest Terms, to your most serious Consideration, and doubt not you will enable me to afford the People that Protection they so much stand in Need of.

The long Experience you have had in the Affairs of this Province, renders it unnecessary for me to enter at this Time into a particular Detail of the Business that requires your immediate Attention; and therefor I have only in general to recommend to you to cultivate Harmony, and a good Understanding among one another.—Let Unanimity and Dispatch prevail in your Councils.—And be assured that I will deny you nothing that I can grant, consistent with my Duty to his Majesty, and the Rights of the Proprietaries."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Governor's Speech was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein,

Resolved, That a Sum of Money be at this Time granted to the King's Use; and that the Committee appointed on the Seventeenth Instant to prepare and bring in a Bill for granting *Forty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, do, instead thereof, bring in a Bill with a Blank for the Sum to be granted.

An Application from *James Ferguson*, one of the Inhabitants who were driven from their Settlements on *Juniata*, by the *French* and *Indians;* also an Application from *Mathias Gantshorn*, who was lately wounded in the Province Service, were laid before the House and read, praying for some Relief in their distressed Circumstances.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Three Pounds* be allowed to each of the said Persons.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock To-morrow Afternoon.

The House met, and adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Bill for granting a Sum of Money to the King's Use, reported, that they had made some Progress therein, but not having completed it, desired further Time for that Purpose.

An Account from *Isaac Kite*, of *Blockley* Township, for the Maintenance of *French* Neutrals, was laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read, and the Message is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"The Secretary will lay before you an Extract of a Letter I received last Night by Express from Lord *Loudon.*

You will be pleased to observe how much all the Colonies, and this Province in particular, are exposed to the immediate Attacks of a successful and implacable Enemy. If the Country is to be saved, it must be by the Dispatch and Vigour of your Resolutions; and I make no Doubt but that you will chearfully grant such Supplies as the Exigency of this important Service requires. May Heaven prosper your Councils! and permit me to remind you, it is your Duty to enable me to protect the People, and support his Majesty's Government, at this most critical Conjuncture.

I also lay before you some Letters from the Frontiers, where a speedy Reinforcement is absolutely necessary, to save all from Ruin.

August 27, 1756. *WILLIAM DENNY.*"

The Secretary informed the House, that as the Letter from Lieutenant Colonel *Armstrong* mentioned an Affair which had hitherto been kept a Secret, the Governor desired that it might still be kept as such.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House being informed, that some of the *French* Neutrals were attending without, and had something to offer to the House, they were called in, and presented a Petition, of which the following is a literal Translation.

To the Speaker, and the Honourable Members of the ASSEMBLY of *Pennsylvania.*

GENTLEMEN,

In as much as it has pleased your honourable Assembly to manifest the greatest Charity towards us during the Space of Ten Months, that we have now been in this Province, we hope your Charity will not now fail, but that you will be pleased still to extend it towards us an unhappy People, who have never been guilty of any Transgression which might subject us to the Calamity we have been made to endure. The Gentlemen appointed by you as Commissioners, have made the necessary Provision for our Subsistance, till we were dispersed in different Parts of the Country, since which Provisions have been entirely withheld from several Families; nevertheless, we are persuaded your honourable House is not chargeable with this Neglect. We are also sensible that we are a Burden to this Province; yet as we are here, though against our Will, we shall certainly perish, except your Charity preserves us.

We humbly pray, that you would extend your Goodness so far as to give us Leave to depart from hence, or be pleased to send us to our Nation; or any where, to join our Country People; but if you cannot grant us these Favours, we desire that Provision may be made for our Subsistance, so long as we are detained here. If this our humble Request should be refused, and our Wives and Children be suffered to perish befour our Eyes, how grievous will this be; had we not better have died in our native Land!

It may be it will be said, that we may work for our Livelihood. It is true, many of us can; but the greatest Part are not able to do it; besides, the Labour of one Man, should be constantly meet with Employment, is not sufficient to feed and clothe a Wife and five or six Children: Perhaps, in order to obviate this Difficulty, and take from the Father the Burden of maintaining so many Children, it will be proposed that the Children be taken from their Parents; should this be the Case, the Unhappiness of our Condition would be much aggravated, as we should thereby be compelled to forsake those most tender Pledges which both God and Nature have committed to our Trust.

It is true, you have been so good as to offer us some Assistance towards procuring to ourselves a Living, such as Cows, Gardens, *&c.* which we have refused; and we are told that this Refusal has irritated the Assembly against us, and that a Part of our Provision has on that Account been kept from us. Our refusing to accept of the Assistance offered to us did not arise from any Undervaluement of such kind Offers, but it arose from an Opinion which we entertained, that being Prisoners, we were not obliged to make Settlements against our Inclination: And we hope we shall not be understood to fail in the Respect that is due to you, by the Acknowledgment which we now sincerely make, that we shall never fully consent * to settle in this Province. This our free Confession will appear somewhat harsh, yet not so much so, if the Promise made us by Mr. *Charles Lawrence*, Governor of *Nova-Scotia*,

*In the Original it is [*de notre plein. Gres*] be considered, which, in the Presence of his Majesty's Council was, that he made us Prisoners even like the *French* Prisoners, and that he would cause us to be transported to a *French* Country. We beseech you, Gentlemen, let us enjoy the same Privileges which *French* Prisoners have enjoyed, that is, the Hopes of recovering our Freedom, or at least be pleased that such Provision be made for us, that we perish not.

It is very hard to see our Substance, and those Places which have been granted us by his Majesty, paying the customary Dues, and which we have settled by the Sweat of our Brows, we say, it is hard to see these Places taken from us, and we transported in a foreign Land, and this contrary to the most solemn Promise, without any Occasion given on our Part for such an Usage.

Upon a Consideration of our Misfortunes, we hope it will please you, Gentlemen, to cast a charitable Eye upon our unhappy Condition; don't let us perish for Want of Food, or afford us the necessary Means to go and join our Country People. These are the most earnest Wishes of those who are with all possible Respect,

Your very humble and obedient Servants,

Alexis Tibaudau,
Pierre Babin,
Pierre Aucoin,
Benoni Bourg,
Paul Bujauld,
Oliver Tibaudau,
Jean Landry,
Pierre Doucet,
Jean Doucet,
Baptiste Babin,
Maturin Landry,
Simon Babin,
Philip Melanson,
Simon Le Blanc,
Stanislas Forrest."

On the Behalf of the whole.

The Governor's Message was again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock to-morrow Morning.

The Speaker laid before the House sundry Letters from Persons residing on the Frontiers of this Province, which he informed the House he had received from the Governor; and the same being read, were ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Governor's Speech and Message were again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, *Ordered*, That *Joseph Fox*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Masters*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *George Ashbridge*, *Emanuel Carpenter*, *John Wright*, *Joseph Armstrong* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare Draughts of Answers thereto.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Committee appointed to prepare Draughts of Answers to the Governor's Speech and Message, reported the same to the House, and they were read, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that they may be sent up to the Governor.

Leonard Wesser, a *German*, who had been taken Prisoner by the *Indians*, and was delivered up by the *Delaware* Chief *Teedyuscung*, attending without, was called in, and having answered such Questions as were put to him by the House, he withdrew.

Resolved, That the Sum of *Four Pounds* be allowed to the said *Wesser*, in Consideration of his present distressed Circumstances.

The Answers to the Governor's Speech and Message, being transcribed, were again read, and are as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable WILLIAM DENNY, *Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c.*

The ADDRESS of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province, in Answer to the Governor's Speech of the Twenty-third Instant.

May it please the GOVERNOR,

We look upon the Royal Approbation of the Governor's Appointment, at this critical Time, as a Mark of the paternal Regard his Majesty has, on all Occasions, extended to his Subjects, whenever their Distresses have been laid before him; and we shall most chearfully contribute our Aid and Assistance to restore the former flourishing State of *Pennsylvania.*

It gives us great Pleasure to find that the Governor has promised, on every Occasion, to protect this Province from the Designs and Attacks of the Enemy, and to support the People in the Enjoyment of their Civil and Religious Rights; which, from his known Character, and the Experience we have had of his Conduct since his Arrival among us, we are confident the Governor will be led to, as well from his own Inclination as from his Duty.

The extended Western Boundry of this Province, which in a great Measure covers the Colonies of *Maryland*, the Three Lower Counties, on *Delaware*, and the Province of *New-Jersey*, and the dispersed Manner of settling the Back Lands in this Colony and *Virginia*, have exposed both to greater Damage from the Inroads of the *Indians;* but as our Frontier is now in a better State of Defence than that of any of our Neighbours, equally near the Enemy, we cannot but hope that the Inhabitants, by the Blessing of God on the Means hitherto provided by the Legislature, may become more secure in their Settlements; and as great Unanimity prevails among the Members of our House, we shall, as far as lies in our Power, consistent with our just Rights, enable the Governor to afford the People the Continuance of "that Protection they so much stand in need of;" in full Confidence that the Governor "will deny us nothing that he can grant, consistent with his Duty to his Majesty, and the Rights of the Proprietaries."

A MESSAGE to the GOVERNOR *from the* ASSEMBLY

May it please the GOVERNOR,

As soon as we heard and considered the Governor's Speech, and before we received his Message with the Letter from Lord *Loudon*, we resolved to give a Sum of Money for his Majesty's Service; demonstrating, by that Readiness, that we are not insensible of our Duty to the best of Kings, nor of the Necessity of enabling the Governor at this critical Conjuncture to protect the People committed to his Care.

As former Grants of this Kind have been long delayed, or rendered ineffectual, by Means of latent Proprietary Instructions, not communicated to us till we had spent much Time in vain in forming our Bills, we would now humbly request the Governor to lay before us full Copies of such of his Instructions as relate to Money Bills of any Kind, with the Preambles or other Parts that contain the Reasons of such Instructions; that we may, if possible, avoid all Occasions of Delay in Affairs so important, and that our Judgments may be informed of the Equity or Necessity of Rules to which a Conformity is required.

From the Governor's Candour, and sincere Desire to facilitate and expedite, by every Means in his Power, what is necessary to the public Welfare, as well as from the Reasonableness of the Thing in itself, we have no Doubt that he will favour us in granting this Request."

And the foregoing Address and Message being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House,

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *William Masters*, *Joseph Ham-*

ton, Thomas Cummings, Emanuel Carpenter, David McConnaughy, Joseph Armstrong and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Address and Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would take them into his immediate Consideration.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Petition from the Neutral *French*, now in this Province; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *George Ashbridge* and *James Wright* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire a Conference with him concerning the *French* Neutrals now in this Province, and that he would be pleased to appoint such Time and Place as will be most agreeable to him for that purpose.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, together with a Copy of the Proprietary Instructions relating to Money Bills, which were read, and are as follow, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"Agreeable to your Request in your Message of this Morning, I now lay before you Copies of the Proprietaries Instructions relating to Money Bills.

August 31, 1756. *WILLIAM DENNY*."

COPY of the Eleventh Article of the Proprietary INSTRUCTIONS.

WHEREAS the Interest Money arising from the Loan of Bills of Credit in the said Province is intended by us and the House of Representatives to be applied for the Public Service of the Province, and of the Inhabitants thereof; and should therefore, under the Direction of the same Power that raises it, be most carefully applied to those Purposes, as a greater Security to the People against Misapplication than if it was entrusted only to one Branch of the Legislature; and such was the ancient Practice in our said Province. You shall therefore not give your Assent to any Bill or Act of Assembly for the Emitting or Re-emitting and Continuing any Paper Currency or Bills of Credit in the said Province, unless every such Bill or Act of Assembly do contain one or more enacting Clauses, whereby it shall be effectually enacted, that the Whole of the Interest Money to accrue, arise and become payable, from the

Loan of all such Paper Currency or Bills of Credit hereafter to be issued, emitted, continued or re-emitted, shall be disposed of only to the very Purposes to be mentioned and expressed in the same Act, in such Cases where the Purposes may conveniently be mentioned and expressed therein; or, where that cannot conveniently be done, then to such Purposes only as shall be mentioned and expressed in some future Act of the Governor and Assembly, or in some future Vote or Resolution of Assembly, approved of and signed by the Governor or Commander in Chief of the said Province for the Time being. And whereas there is the same good Reason for securing to the Use of the Inhabitants any Monies raised on them by Excise or any other Method you shall not give your Assent to any Law for prolonging the present Excise, or laying any other Excise, or raising any Money on the Inhabitants of the said Province of *Pennsylvania*, unless there be the like enacting Clause, that all Money arising from the said Excise or other Duties, shall be disposed of only to the very Purposes to be mentioned and expressed in the same Act, in such Cases where the Purposes may conveniently be mentioned and expressed therein; or, where that cannot conveniently be done, then to such Purposes only as shall be mentioned and expressed in in some future Act of the Governor and Assembly, or in some future Vote or Resolution of Assembly, approved of and signed by the Governor or Commander in Chief in the said Province for the Time being.

A true Copy, compared with the Original, by
RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary.*

COPY of the Twelfth Article of the Proprietary INSTRUCTIONS.

WHEREAS by an Act of Assembly passed in the said Province, in the Twelfth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, entituled, *An Act for re-printing, exchanging, and re-emitting all the Bills of Credit of this Province, and for striking the further Sum of* Eleven Thousand One Hundred *and* Ten Pounds *and* Five Shillings, *to be emitted upon Loan*, the Paper Bills or Bills of Credit of the said Province amounted unto *Fourscore Thousand Pounds*, Proclamation Money, or thereabouts; and although a reasonable and moderate Quantity of Paper Money or Bills of Credit, in the said Province, tends greatly to the Service and Benefit of the said Province and its Inhabitants, as well as to the Trade of *Great-Britain*, yet the Making, Emitting or Continuing too large a Quantity thereof, has, in other Colonies, and would in the said Province be prejudicial, and would greatly affect the Exchange and Trade of the said Province: And whereas it hath been represented to us, that it will be of Advantage to the Trade of the said Province, to re-emit and continue the said *Fourscore Thousand Pounds*, and even to enlarge and encrease the Quantity of Paper Money, you are therefore diligently and carefully to enquire, whether it is necessary, and will be convenient, to re-emit the said *Fourscore Thousand Pounds;* and also, whether it is really necessary to create and issue any further Sum in Paper Currency or Bills of Credit in the said Province: And in Case, upon your best Enquiry, you shall find it to be really convenient and necessary, and of Advantage to the said Province, then, but in no other Case, you may pass and give your Assent to any Act or Acts of Assembly in the said Province, for re-emitting or continuing the said *Fourscore Thousand Pounds* for such Time as you shall judge proper; and also for raising and issuing any further Sum or Sums in Paper Currency or Bills of Credit which you shall think necessary, not to exceed the Sum of *Forty Thousand Pounds*, Proclamation Money. Always provided, that on every such Bill, strict Regard be had to our foregoing Instruction, Number Eleven, as to the Disposal of all the Interest to arise from such Paper Money so to be re-emitted or continued, or to be new raised or issued. And also provided, that in the very Acts for re-emitting, continuing or issuing such Paper Currency, or in some other distinct Act or Acts to be passed at the same Time, it be effectually enacted, that all Rents and Quitrents in the said Province, due, or to be due and payable to the Proprietaries for the Time being, be always paid according to the Rate of Exchange, at the Times of Payment, between the Cities of *Philadelphia* and *London*, or some other sufficient Provision be enacted in Lieu thereof, in as effectual a Manner as was done by a separate Act at the Time when the said Act of the Twelfth Year of his Majesty's Reign was passed."

A true Copy, compared with the Original, by
RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary.*

COPY of the Twenty-first Article of the Proprietary INSTRUCTIONS.

WHEREAS, from the first Settlement of the said Province, several Acts of Assembly have from Time to Time been passed for raising Provincial Taxes; in all which, as well when the Government was (for some Time) in the Hands of the Crown, as when executed by Commission from our late Father, the Estates of the Proprietary himself, and, in some of the said

Acts, those of his Children, and Deputies also, were exempted from paying towards such Taxes; over and besides which Exemption, several Acts were passed, giving to the said Proprietary a Support, by Duties and other Impositions, as may appear, on Examination of the several Acts of Assembly. And whereas, since the Expiration of those former Laws, no Aid hath ever been granted by the Assembly to us, as Proprietaries, notwithstanding which, we have on several Occasions shewn our Regard to the public Service of the said Province, by voluntarily and chearfully expending several considerable Sums of our own Money for the Advancement thereof, although no Provincial Tax hath been laid upon the People within our Time, for any Purpose whatsoever, until the last Year; so that as we had no Reason to suspect that the Assembly of the said Province would deviate so much from the former Usage, as to pretend by any Act of theirs to charge our Estates in the said Province with the Burthen of any Taxes, we had not therefore given to your Predecessor any particular Instructions on that Head. And whereas the Assembly of the said Province, taking Occasion of the Troubles in *America*, to represent us in a very untrue Light, as if we were unwilling to assist the Public, by contributing towards the Defence of the Country, though no Application had ever once been made to either of us for that Purpose, did, in the last Year, prepare and send up to our Lieutenant-Governor, a Bill of a most unjust and extraordinary Nature and Import, entituled, *An Act for raising* Ffty Thousand Pounds *for the King's Use, by a Tax of* Twelve-pence per *Pound* and Twenty Shillings per *Head, yearly for two Years, on all the Estates real and personal, and Taxables within this Province.* By which Bill it was proposed to be enacted, that there should be levied and raised, upon all the Estates, real and personal, within the said Province, of all and every Person and Persons, the Estates of us the Proprietaries not excepted, the Sum of *Twelve-pence* for every *Pound* clear Value of the same, yearly for the Space of two Years, to be paid by the Owners or Possessors thereof; and that all located and unimproved Lands should be rated according to their Situation and Value, at any Prices not exceeding *Fifteen Pounds*, nor under *Five Pounds* for every Hundred Acres of such unimproved Land; and that Part of such Land should be sold to discharge such Taxes, in Case the Owners of the same, or some Person for them, neglected or refused to pay the Rates assessed thereon; and that the Commissioners and Assessors of the County of *Philadelphia* should acquaint themselves with, and procure the Amount, as near as they were able, of our Estate in Quit-rents throughout the Province, and thereupon assess and tax the same, in the same Manner as other Estates were assessed and taxed in the respective Counties, by Virtue of that Bill. And whereas there are many other Ways of raising a Tax of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* in the said Province, without resorting to a Land Tax for that Purpose; but if a Land Tax was necessary for the Raising any Supply, it should be founded on Justice, and conformable to the Royal Charter, be consonant to Reason, and not repugnant or contrary, but as near as conveniently may be, agreeable to the Laws, Statutes and Rights of the Kingdom of *England;* but the said Bill was framed so contrary to Justice, and Laws of the same Kind in this Kingdom, that by it *One Shilling* in the *Pound*, for two Years, was laid on the whole Value in Fee-simple of every Estate, which, supposing the same computed at Twenty-five Years Purchase only, is a Charge of a Quarter Part more than the whole gross Rent, without allowing for any Charges or Repairs; a Tax which never was laid, nor can possibly be paid, in any Country; a Part of the Estate only being taken for the Preservation of the Whole; nor was so heavy a Tax necessary to be laid in *Pennsylvania* for raising the Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds:* For if that Tax had been truly and fully assessed and paid, it must have amounted to many times that Sum; but the Laying such a large nominal Tax, appears to us to have been most unjustly calculated for the Purpose of putting it in the Power of Persons, wholly chosen by the People, to tax our Estates up to the full Value therein mentioned, and to ease other Persons, by taxing them so lightly, as only to make up the Residue that might be wanted to complete the *Fifty Thousand Pounds;* in which Case the Persons chosen by the People might have laid by much the greatest Part of the Burden upon our Estates alone, which, by former Usage, had never been taxed at all. And whereas the laying of Taxes on the real Value of the Fee-simple, and not on the yearly Income of Estates, and upon unimproved Lands, which yield no annual Profit or Rent to the Owner, and the Sale of the Land itself, and the Inheritance thereof, for Payment of the Tax imposed thereon, appear to us highly unreasonable, and not to be the Practice in *Great-Britain*, and no way agreeable, but quite contrary to the Laws and Statutes of this Kingdom: And whereas, upon the best Enquiries we have made, we cannot find that the Quitrents reserved to the Crown, or to the Proprietaries, in any other of the *American* Colonies, have ever been taxed towards the Raising any Supplies granted in those Colonies; and indeed these Quitrents are generally so small, that little or no Land-Tax would be due or payable on them if arising in *Great-Britain*, where Land-Tax Acts are annually passed, and the Grantees and Owners of such Farms and Plantations on which such very small Quitrents or Acknowledgments are reserved to us, do, in Case of a Land-Tax, pay Tax for the Value of such their said Farms: And whereas our Lieutenant Governor proposed to the Assembly, to except or exempt our Estates out of the Tax to be raised by the said *Fifty Thousand Pound* Bill, which they refusing to do, he never gave his Assent to the said Bill, but acquainted the Assembly (as the Truth was) that we were so far from desiring not to contribute to the Defence and Support of his Majesty's Rights and Dominions, that immediately, on the first Notice sent us of the Defeat of General *Braddock*, we had sent over an Order upon our Receiver General, to pay out of the Arrears of our Quitrents the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, as a free Gift, towards the Defence of the said Province; desiring, at the same Time, that all Disputes might be laid aside, and that the Governor and Assembly would join together in Measures to oppose the common Enemy: And whereas we believe, that such *Five Thousand Pounds*, so by us given, was about Twenty times more than the Tax upon all our Estate there, if truly and proportionably rated, according to all other Persons Estates in the said Province could amount to towards raising a Sum of *Fifty Thousand Pounds:* And whereas the Assembly afterwards prepared and sent up to the said Lieutenant Governor another Bill, entitled, *An Act for granting the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same,* whereby they proposed to enact, that there should be levied upon all the Estates, Real and Personal, within that Province, of all and every Person and Persons (our Estates only excepted, in Consideration of our free Gift herein before and in the said Bill afterward mentioned) the Sum of *Six-pence* for every *Pound*, clear Value of the said Estates yearly for the Space of four Years; and also, that all located and unimproved Lands in the said Province should be rated in such Manner, and at such Values, as had been proposed in the said former Bill, and that Part of such Lands should be sold, in Case of Neglect or Refusal to pay the Tax thereon: And whereas his Majesty's Service, and the Defence of the said Province, then requiring Money to be immediately raised, and our said Lieutenant Governor not being provided with our particular Instructions relating to any such Bill, he assented to the same in the Month of *November* last; and when the said Act was sent over hither for the Approbation of his Majesty, we, tendering as we ought to do, the then Exigency of Affairs, and the Necessity of an immediate Supply for his Majesty's Service, did not make any Application to his Majesty for his Royal Disallowance of the said Act, as we should have done at another Time, and on a less Occasion: And whereas the said Assembly, in order to raise the said Tax, had, by both their said Bills, appointed Commissioners and Assessors (Persons chosen by the People only, and not any one of them by us) and those but very few in Number, to assess or fix the Quotas which each Estate should pay; which Persons, if ever so well disposed to act fairly and uprightly therein, can have no Knowledge of the true Value of all the several Estates to be taxed, and yet are made final and absolute Judges, without Appeal, what Sum each Estate shall pay towards raising the said Tax; whereby, and by laying so great a Tax, to raise so small a Sum, such Persons may have it in their Power to commit great Irregularities, in taxing some Estates to their utmost Value, and easing others, which would be unequal and unjust, we having been informed, that in assessing the ordinary County Levies on the like Plan with that whereon the said Bills were formed, many Persons, instead of being rated to their full Worth, were not rated at one Fiftieth Part of their supposed Worth: And whereas the said Assembly appear to us to have been inclined not only to load and burden our Estates with Taxes by their Authority, directly contrary to former Usage, but even to charge the same disproportionably, and in an unequal Manner, in order to ease the Estates of others, which is a Measure we are by no Means willing to consent to: And as the present Invasion of his Majesty's *American* Dominions may make it necessary to raise further Supplies for his Service in our said Province, the Assembly may hereafter propose and offer Bills or Acts of Assembly, to lay additional Taxes on real Estates there; You are therefore hereby required and directed, not to give your Assent to any Bill or Act of Assembly of that Sort, unless the Act be made to continue for one single Year only, and no longer; nor unless the same be made as agreeable as possible to the general Tenor of the Acts of Parliament annually passed for raising the Land-

Tax in that Part of *Great-Britain* called *England* (especially by laying the Tax, with respect to real Estates, upon the particular Houses or Lands, in the respective Counties or Districts) by which the Rate of it may at any Time be seen; nor unless the Tax, as to real Estates, be laid upon the true annual Rent or yearly Value only (such yearly Value, where Persons occupy their own Lands or Houses, to be ascertained in some such Manner as herein after mentioned) and not upon the real Value of the Fee-simple of the real Estate; nor unless the Tax, as to personal Estate, be laid upon the annual Interest or Profit, and not upon the whole Capital thereof; nor unless the whole Method of Assessing, Collecting and Paying in of the same, be particularly and specially laid down in the Body of such Bill or Act itself, and not by Reference to any other Bill or Act; nor unless, in order that such Bill or Act may be founded in equal Justice, there be effectual Clauses therein to ascertain the true and real Rent or yearly Value of every Estate in Land or Houses in the Province; First, by having a good Number of the most considerable Inhabitants out of every Township in the several Counties inserted in the Bill as Commissioners; such Commissioners, before the act, to be solemnly sworn, or affirmed, to do impartial Justice, and to have Power in them to cite and compel to appear and be sworn or affirmed before them, all Tenants and other Persons, in order to discover what Rents are really and truly paid, in Cases where Land or Houses are let out at Rack Rents; and other Cases, or where Persons occupy their own Land, or reside in their own Houses, the Commissioners to have Power to enquire by Means aforesaid, or by any other lawful and reasonable Ways and Means, what the Inheritance of such Lands and Houses is worth to be sold at the utmost, and then to estimate and tax such Houses and Lands as of the yearly Value of so much as the Interest of such Sum, at the low Rate of *Three Pounds per Centum per Annum*, amounts to; nor unless all unoccupied and unimproved Lands whatsoever, and also all our Quitrents in the said Province be expressly excepted and exempted from such Tax; But in Case the Assembly shall propose to raise Supplies by a Land-Tax Bill, and such Bill shall be clear of every the foregoing Objections or Prohibitions, and shall not contain any Tax further than after the Rate of *One Shilling*, *Two*, *Three*, or at the utmost *Four Shillings* in the *Pound*, for any one Year, upon the annual Rent or yearly Value, so to be ascertained as aforesaid, of Houses, Lands or Tenements, in the said

Province; and also to tax personal Estates in the said Province, subject to the foregoing Regulations; then, and in such Case, you may give your Assent to the same, if you think the same a reasonable, just and necessary Bill in all other Respects. And you shall take Care, that every such Bill or Act, which you shall assent to, shall contain Clauses for the Tenants of real Estates paying such Tax, and deducting the same out of the yearly Rent payable to the Landlord, provided such yearly Rent amounts to the Sum of *Twenty Shillings* and upwards, according to the Act for laying a Land-Tax in *England*, and Clauses for Distress upon any Matters distrainable, being upon the taxed Premises; but no Clause or Power to distrain or sell the House or Land itself, or any Part thereof, in any Case, for Satisfaction of the Tax; and unless such Clauses be inserted, you shall not give your Assent to any such Bill or Act. And whereas we are, and always have been, most ready and willing to bear a just Proportion along with our Tenants in any necessary Tax for the Defence of the said Province which shall be equally laid upon the Lands of the Inhabitants and also upon any of our Manors or Lands, which are actually let out on Leases, either for Lives or Years, as being Estates in some Degree like to those of which the Inhabitants are possessed; therefore you are at Liberty to give your Consent to any reasonable Bill or Act for that Purpose, provided the Tax to be paid for such our last-mentioned Estates shall be payable by the Tenants and Occupiers, who shall deduct the same out of the Rents payable by them to us. And you shall not consent to any Bill or Act for taxing the Fine or Purchase-Monies, to be paid to us by any Person, on Purchase from us of any Estate in Fee-simple, or for Life or Lives, as the Tax is to be laid on the Land; and the Taxing the Money paid for the Purchase of the Lands, or of a Freehold or Inheritance therein, would be, in Effect, to pay two Taxes for the same Thing; and that Landlords, in this Kingdom, do not pay any Land-Tax for such Purchase-Monies, but only for the reserved Rent, when it amounts to above *Twenty Shillings per Annum*, the Residue of the Tax for such Land being paid by the Purchaser.

A true Copy, compared with the Original, by

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would be at the Council Chamber by Twelve o'Clock this Morning, in order to confer with the House concerning the *French* Neutrals.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *John Hughes*, *William Masters*, *Samuel Brown* and *Joseph Gibbons* be, with the Speaker, a Committee to confer with the Governor concerning the *French* Neutrals now in this Province.——And the House being informed that the Governor was in the Council Chamber, the Committee waited upon him accordingly. And being returned, the Speaker reported, that they had some Conversation with the Governor concerning the *French* Neutrals, but did not come to any Conclusion thereupon, as the Governor informed the Committee that there was a Letter from the Governor of *Nova-Scotia*, and several other Papers on that Head, which he had not as yet perused, but that he would immediately take them into his Consideration, and lay them before his Council for their Opinion, and then acquaint the House with his Result.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Proprietaries Instructions, and Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the Kings Use; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Proprietary Instructions, and Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Benjamin Franklin* wait upon the Governor, and deliver the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

The House have taken into their most serious Consideration Proprietary Instructions relating to the Passing of Money Bills, which the Governor has been pleased to lay before us; and as we are fully convinced the present unhappy Circumstances of this Province require very large and immediate Supplies, we have likewise considered the Funds whereby such Sums as we judge absolutely necessary for the Security of the Province may be sunk, but every Thing we have hitherto been able to propose, must be rendered in a great Degree fruitless by those Instructions, if adhered to.

We therefore request the Governor would be pleased to inform us, whether he does not apprehend himself at Liberty, notwithstanding the said Proprietary Instructions, to pass such equitable Bills as we may offer him, if consistent with his own Judgment, and agreeable to such Laws as have been enacted by his Predecessors, and received the Royal Assent.

September 1, 1756. *Signed by Order of the House,*
ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker.*"

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of Yesternight, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would send an Answer to the House ths Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House a Message in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

"I am very glad to hear the House have taken the Money Bills into their serious Consideration, and the Proprietary Instructions on that Subject.

"It would be with great Reluctance, especially at this Time, if I should differ in Sentiments with the House of Representatives. You will be pleased to observe I am circumstanced, and that I cannot recede from my Instructions without risking both my Honour and Fortune, which I am persuaded, you, Gentlemen, are too equitable to desire.

September 2, 1756. *WILLIAM DENNY.*"

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Proprietary Instructions, and Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Money for the King's Use, and after some Time spent therein,

Resolved, That the Sum to be granted to the King's Use at this Time be *Sixty Thousand Pounds*, and that the same be struck in Bills of Credit, and sunk by an Extension of the Excise Act for Twenty Years.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to prepare a Bill for granting a Sum of Money to the King's Use, to prepare the same according to the foregoing Resolve.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'clock, *P. M.*

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, was brought in by the Committee appointed to prepare the same, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Goveronr directs me to inform the Speaker, and the Committee, that it is the unanimous Opinion of the Council and himself, that the *French* Prisoners should not be treated as Prisoners of War.——That he recommends it to the House to provide for them in such a Manner as they shall think fit.——That it might be better they should be more generally dispersed and settled as far from the Frontiers as possible.

"Governor *Lawrence's* Letter is sent, to shew the House under what Circumstances the Neutrals came here."

A Petition from *Joseph Redman*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner apprehends with Submission that he has faithfully executed his late Office of Collector of the Excise for the City and County of *Philadelphia*, to the general Satisfaction of all Persons concerned; the Petitioner therefore prays that he may be appointed to said Office in the Excise Bill now before the House.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use was read the second time, and after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, the same was referred to farther Consideration in the Afternoon.

Upon Motion made,

Ordered, That *John Hughes* and *Daniel Roberdeau* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire to know whether some Letters have not been received by the late Governor from Lord *Loudon*, expressing his Expectations from this Province at the present Juncture, and request if any such Letters have been received, that they may be laid before the House for their Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'clock, P. M.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would enquire whether any Letters had been received from Lord *Loudon* by the late Governor, and let the House know this Afternoon.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down sundry Letters received by the late Governor relating to public Affairs, which had not been communicated to the House before; and the Secretary informed the House that the Governor was pleased to say, that he made no Doubt but the House would think with him that the said Letters ought not to be made public.

And the same being read, were severally entituled as follows, *viz.*

1. *A Letter from Governor* Lawrence *of Nova-Scotia to Governor* Morris, *containing the Reasons for the Removal of the Neutral* French *from that Colony, dated* Halifax, August 11, 1755.

2. *A Letter from Sir* Thomas Robinson *to Governor* Morris, *acquainting him with the Appointment of Governor* Shirley *to be Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in* North-America, *dated* Whitehall, August 28, 1755.

3. *A Letter from Lord* Halifax *to Governor* Morris, *acquainting him with the Appointment of Lord* Loudon *to be Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in* North-America, *dated* Grovesnor-Square, May 11, 1756.

4. *A Letter from the Right Honourable* Henry Fox, *one of the Secretaries of State, to Governor* Morris, *containing his Majesty's Declaration of War against* France, *dated* Whitehall, May 17, 1756.

5. *A Letter from Lord* Loudon *to Governor* Morris, *notifying his Arrival,* &c. *dated* New-York, July 23, 1756.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch*, *William Masters*, *William Smith*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Webb*, *David McConnaughy* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to inspect and settle the Accounts of the Incidental Charges of the current Year.

An Account from *Hannah Boyd*, for the Maintenance of sundry *Indians*, was laid before the House, and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and, after some Alterations made therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Sundry Accounts for Public Services were laid before the House, read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use; and, after some

Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Ordered, That *James Wright*, *John Wright* and *David McConnaughy* have Leave to be absent the Remainder of this Sitting, on urgent Business.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House sundry Petitions he had received from the Back Counties, setting forth their present distressed Situation, and praying Relief; which, the Secretary informed the House, the Governor recommended to their Consideration. And the same were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

A Petition from *Charles Humphreys*, of the County of *Chester*, praying to be appointed the Officer for collecting the Excise in said County, in the Bill now before the House, was presented to the House and read, and *Ordered to lie on the Table.*

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use; and, after some Time spent therein, the same was referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

A Petition from *Hugh Davey*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, praying that in the Bill now before the House he may be appointed the Officer for collecting the Excise for the City and County of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Upon the Application of a certain *Jacob People*, of the County of *Cumberland*, the House allowed him *Three Pounds* towards his Relief in his present Distress, occasioned by the Enemy *Indians.*

A Petition from *Barnaby Barnes*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, praying to be appointed the Officer for collecting the Excise for the said City and County, in the Bill now under the Consideration of the House.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Bill for granting the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use;

and, after sundry Alterations made therein, the same was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

A Petition from *Joseph Maule*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, praying to be nominated Collector of the Excise for the City and County of *Philadelphia*, in the Bill now before the House, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, P. M.

A Petition from *John Miller*, of the County of *Chester*, praying to be appointed Collector of the Excise for said County, in the Bill now under the Consideration of the House, was presented to the House and read, and

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The several Petitions for the Excise Office were again read, and considered; and, after some Time spent therein, the House came to the following Resolutions, *viz.*

Resolved, That *Joseph Stretch* be Collector of the Excise within the City and County of *Philadelphia.*

Resolved, That *Joseph Hamton* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *Bucks.*

Resolved, That *Charles Humphreys* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *Chester.*

Resolved, That *James Webb* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *Lancaster.*

Resolved, That *Thomas Minshall* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *York.*

Resolved, That *Nathaniel Wilson* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *Cumberland.*

Resolved, That *John Hughes* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *Berks.*

Resolved, That *John Jones* be Collector of the Excise within the County of *Northampton.*

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for striking the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, being transcribed, was read the third time, and the Names of the several Collectors inserted therein.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *Daniel Roberdeau* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The following are the appropriating Clauses in the before-mentioned Bill for granting Sixty Thousand Pounds to the King's Use, viz.

"*And be it further enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, that when the said Bills are signed and perfected, *Ten Thousand Pounds*, part of the said *Sixty Thousand Pounds* hereby granted and given to the King's Use, shall be a Contribution from this Province towards a general *American* Fund, for the common Service and Defense of the Colonies, and shall be subject to the Orders of the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of LOUDON, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in *North-America*; to be disposed of and paid in such Manner as he shall think fit to direct for that Service. *And whereas* the Expedition of the last Year against *Crown-Point*, received an Aid from this Province of *Ten Thousand Pounds* in Provisions, and *Five Thousand Pounds* in Provisions were likewise granted and furnished to the late General *Braddock*, the Whole of which were purchased on the Credit of the Assembly, and Notes or Orders issued and given for the same, amounting to *Fifteen Thousand Pounds*, bearing Interest at *Five per Centum per Annum*, whereof upwards of *Ten Thousand Pounds* are not yet redeemed, nor through the present calamitous Circumstances of the Province can they be redeemed in due Time, without greatly distressing the inhabitants, unless by the Aid of this Act; as no Part of the *One Hundred and Fifteen Thousand Pounds* granted by Parliament to the Colonies concerned in the before-mentioned Expedition, has been allotted to *Pennsylvania*; *Therefore be it futher enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, that the Trustees of the General Loan-Office shall receive and pay off the said Orders to the Amount of *Ten Thousand Pounds* Principal, together with the interest thereon due, within three Months after the Publication of this Act, out of the Money hereby to be struck and made current; and the said Orders by them produced to the Committee of Assembly, appointed or to be appointed for the auditing and settling the Public Accounts, with indorsements of the Times when redeemed, and interest thereon paid, shall be allowed as good and sufficient Discharges for so much of the said *Sixty Thousand Pounds* by this Act placed in their Hands: And the Orders so exchanged and produced to the Committee of Accounts, shall, in their Presence, be immediately burnt and destroyed. *And whereas* the Commissioners nominated and appointed by the Act heretofore passed by this Assembly, entitled, "*An Act for granting the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *for the King's Use, and for striking* Fifty-five Thousand Pounds *thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same,*" have, with the Consent of the Governor, already expended the Sum of *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds*, and have entered into Contracts for the King's Service, exceeding (after the Proprietaries Free Gift be fully paid) the whole Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted by the said Act: *Therefore be it further enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, that the Commissioners hereinafter named, or the major Part of them or of the Survivors of them, shall, and they are hereby impowered to discharge and pay all such Debts as the Commissioners appointed by the Act herein before-mentioned for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, shall certify under their Hands (or the Hands of a Majority of them) to be Debts justly due, and contracted for the King's Service, and properly chargeable to this Province.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that *Isaac Norris*, *Lyn-Ford Lardner*, *John Mifflin*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Joseph Fox*, *John Hughes* and *William Masters*, Esquires, or the major Part of them, or of the Survivors of them, with the Consent and Approbation of the Governor, or Commander in Chief of this Province for the Time being, and not otherwise, shall order and appoint the Disposition of the Residue of the Monies arising, by Virtue of this Act, for the King's Use."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

The House agreed to allow *Jonn Cox* the Sum of *Three Pounds* in Consideration of his present distressed Circumstances, occasioned by his having been lately a Prisoner among the *Indians.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of* Philadelphia, *and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City, for defraying* *the necessary Expenses thereof*, being engrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *John Hughes* do wait upon the Governor and deliver the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, &c. with the following Message, *viz.*

May it please the GOVERNOR,

We herewith send up to the Governor a Bill, entituled, *An Act for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of* Philadelphia, *and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof.*

This Bill was framed and sent up to our late Governor near the End of his Administration, and, after several Amendments, was agreed to by both Parts of the Legislature, and engrossed by Order of the House. In this Situation it lay ready to be enacted into a Law when the Governor arrived among us: We have therefore by special Order inserted his Name into the enacting Clause, and now send up the engrossed Bill, together with the one which had been considered by our late Governor.

If the Governor shall think fit to pass this Bill, we will, whenever it may suit him, appoint two of our Members to join such of the Council as he may be pleased to nominate for comparing the same, in order to its being enacted into a Law.

September 9, 1756. *Signed, By Order of the House.*
ISAAC NORRIS, *Speaker*."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

Sundry Accounts from *Bethlehem*, in *Northampton* County, for the Maintenance of *Indians*, and other public Expences, were laid before the House and read, and referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

An Account from *Conrad Young*, of *Lancaster* County, for Maintenance of sundry *Indians*, in *February* last, who came down to *Philadelphia* with Captain *Thomas Magee*, was laid before the House and read, and referred to farther Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

Ordered, That *Samuel Brown* and *Joseph Gibbons* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, has now been near three Days before him, and the House desire to know when they may expect his Result thereupon.

The House resumed the Consideration of the Petition from *Joseph Yeates*, a languishing prisoner in the Goal of the City of Philadelphia; and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That the said *Yeates* have Leave to bring in a Bill for the Purposes mentioned in his said Petition, and that he first give Notice thereof to his Creditor or his Attorney.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

S*IR*,

"The Governor meeting with some Difficulties in the Consideration of the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, desires a Conference with a Committee of the House thereupon, in the Council Chamber, on *Monday* next, at Ten o'Clock in the Morning, if that Time be agreeable to the House."—And then the Secretary withdrew.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, return, and report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he had just sent the Secretary with a Message to the House concerning the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use.

Resolved, That this House doth agree to a Conference with the Governor, agreeable to his Desire.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *John Hughes*, *Thomas Leech*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Masters*, *Calvin Cooper*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be, with the Speaker, a Committee to confer with the Governor on the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to *the King's Use*, at the Time and Place by him proposed.

Ordered, That *John Hughes* and *Daniel Roberdeau* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House have appointed a Committee to confer with him, according to his Request.

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Governor on the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, reported, that, pursuant to the Order of the House, they had waited on the Governor, who was pleased to express himself to the following Purport, *viz.*

"That although, at the Request of the House, he had laid the Proprietary Instructions before them, with the utmost candour, yet he was surprised to find there was a Clause in the Bill now before him, whereby the Surplus Money (if any) was to be in the Disposition of the Assembly, contrary to the said Proprietary Instructions; that the Term for sinking the Sum granted to the King's Use was too long, and would depreciate the Value of the Currency; that so long a Time was contrary to the Sense of the Ministry, and the Spirit of the Act of Parliament, which restrains the Eastern Colonies from striking Bills of Credit for any longer Term, even upon the most pressing Emergencies, than Five Years only; that in the Report of the Board of Trade on the Act passed by this Assembly, for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, the chief Reason their Lordships urged for not advising his Majesty to disallow that Act, was the shortness of the Time for sinking the same; and that there were many Ways to sink the Sum granted to the King's Use, by the present Bill, without extending the Excise for so long a Time."

The Governor then made the following Objections (the Heads of which he afterwards delivered to them, at their Request in Writing,) *viz.*

OBJECTIONS to the Bill for raising Sixty Thousand Pounds *for the King's Use*, &c. &c. &c.

OBJECTION 1st, To the Term of Twenty Years, as too long a Time.

As so long a Term may endanger the entire Loss of the Currency. The Lords of Trade in their Report of April 15, 1756, to the Committee of his Majesty's Honourable Privy Council for Trade and Plantations on the last Act for granting Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the King's Use, having expressly declared, that the shortness of the Time was the Reason that induced their Lordships to advise his Majesty to give his Assent to it.*

2d, To the Disposition of the Surplus Money to arise on this Bill, by the Assembly alone.

3d, To the Making the *Ten Thousand Pounds*, given in the Bill as a Contribution to a General Fund, subject to the Order of Lord *Loudon* only, and not of the Commander in Chief for the Time being of the King's Forces in *America*.

4th, To the Applying any of the Money to be raised by this Bill, to the Discharge of *Ten Thousand Pounds* given for the Use of the *Crown-Point* Expedition, and the Interest arising on that Sum.

As the said Sum was issued upon a Fund already established.

5th, Against the Clause subjecting Persons counterfeiting Bills of Credit to Capital Punishment by a Reference to a former Law, which will expire before the Time limited in the Bill.

As he had taken the Advice of a Lawyer, who was of Opinion that a Punishment could not be inflicted by referring to a Law, after the said Law should be expired.

6th, Against laying Fines on the Court of Quarter-Sessions, &c. &c.

As it was new and unprecedented to fine a Court.

7th, Against Collectors continuing only one Year in Office.

As in so short a Time as one Year the Collectors could not sufficiently learn the Duties of their office.

8th, Against Treasurers giving Bond to the Governor, who in Law has no Succession, not being a Body Politic.

9th, Against taking Treasurers Bond in so small a Sum as *One Thousand Pounds.*

10th, Against applying any Part of the Monies arising from this Bill towards the Discharge of any Part of the *Five Thousand Pounds* given for the *Canada* Expedition.

As the same was already provided for in the former Excise Act.

After which the Governor added,

"That he had several Applications to him from the Frontiers, requesting the Aid of the Legislature under their present distressed Circumstances: That the Eyes of the neighbouring Colonies were upon us, and, above all, the Nation of *England* were in Expectation of our granting the necessary Supplies for the King's Service; that he was sorry to find the first Bill offered to him should be such as he could not pass; and that he hoped we should so conduct ourselves as that he might make a favourable Representation of our Conduct to his Majesty."

The Committee likewise reported, that as the House had not been previously acquainted with the Objections intended by the Governor to be made the Subject of the Conference, they did not think it proper to make any immediate Answer thereto; and had therefore informed the Governor, that they would lay the said Objections before the House, and take the

Sense of the Members thereupon, which they would communicate to the Governor at another Conference, if he would be pleased to consent to one for that Purpose; to which the Governor replied, that he should be always ready to confer with the House at any Time they should propose.

The Speaker informed the House, that the Governor having told him at the Conference that he agreed to the Passing the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, &c. and had appointed two of his Council to join such Members of the House as should be appointed to examine and compare the engrossed Bill with the Original, he, the Speaker, had, in order to save Time, appointed *Joseph Fox* and *John Potts*, to meet the said Members of Council for that Purpose.

And the said Gentlemen reported, that they had, with two Members of Council, compared the engrossed Bill with the Original accordingly, and found them to agree.

The House went upon the Consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Governor on the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox*, *John Hughes*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Masters* be a Committee to prepare such Reasons as they may judge proper to be offered in Answer to the Governor's Objections to the said Bill.

Ordered, That *Richard Pearn* and *William Edmonds* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire another Conference with him on the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and request that he would be pleased to appoint a Time for that Purpose.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would be at the Council Chamber To-Morrow Morning at Ten o'Clock, in order to confer with a Committee of the House upon the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use.

The Committee appointed to prepare Reasons in Answer to the Governor's Objections to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, reported the same to the House in Writing; and the same being read, and considered, were approved by the House, and ordered to be transcribed.

Then the House adjourned to Nine o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Reasons in Answer to the Governor's Objections to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use being transcribed, were delivered to the Committee appointed to confer with the Governor thereupon.

And then the Committee went to the Conference.

The Committee return, and report, that they had met the Governor in Council, and had offered the following Reasons in Answer to the Objections made by him to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, which he said he would take into Consideration, and let the House know his Result thereupon as soon as possible.

REASONS offered to the GOVERNOR, *by the Committee of* ASSEMBLY, *at a second Conference, in Answer to the* GOVERNOR'S *Objections to the Bill for granting* Sixty Thousand Pounds *to the KING's Use.*

The House are very thankful to the Governor for the Readiness and Candour with which he communicated to them the Proprietary Instructions, relating to Money Bills.

They desire he would be pleased to remember, that they requested the *Reasons* on which those Instructions were founded, as well as the Instructions themselves; their Design being to comply with the Instructions, if the Reasons should convince their Judgments, but not otherwise, the Proprietary Instructions being by no Means Laws in this Province.

They have the greatest Respect and Esteem for the Governor, and the strongest and most sincere Desire to do every Thing that may be agreeable to him, consistent with the just Rights and Privileges of the People they represent.—They beg therefore that he would be pleased to give no Ear to any Insinuations to the contrary. And the Committee having taken the Sense of the House on the Objections made to the Bill for raising *Sixty Thousand Pounds* for the King's Use, humbly offer the following Remarks to the Governor on those Objections, in their Order.

1. The House chose, at this Time, an Excise Bill rather than a Land-Tax Bill, to avoid any Dispute about taxing the Proprietary Estate, and because, as it was a Mode of raising Money they were used to and understood, the Bill might more speedily be formed and brought to effect, so as to answer the present pressing Emergency; and being in the same Form with a Number of preceding Excise Bills, that had been passed by former Governors, gone through the Offices at Home, and received the Royal Assent; they well hoped it might meet with no Objections.

The last time it passed, the Term was Ten Years. No Inconvenience arose from the Length of that Term. Could we have sunk the Sum we wanted by the Excise in that Term, we should not desire to extend it. But we expect it will not yield more in Twenty Years than the *Sixty Thousand Pounds* granted. The Act of Parliament made for the Eastern Colonies, is not in Force here. Had the Parliament thought it fit that this Province should be governed by that Act, they would not have excluded *Pennsylvania* out of the Bill, as they actually did. Governor *Hamilton* had formerly offered to extend the Excise to any Term, during which we would load it with *Three Thousand Pounds per Annum*, granted to the Crown. From whence we concluded the Term of Twenty Years would not be objected to, *Sixty Thousand Pounds* being granted.

Other Taxes or Excises on other Consumptions might possibly be laid, but we have no Experience of them: They will require a Time of more Leisure to be well considered, and Laws for collecting them properly formed, so as to be effectual, and not injurious to our Trade. If this War continues, we may soon want them all; and the succeeding Assembly may take those Matters in Hand immediately after their Meeting, so as to have such new Excises ready before the Money now granted is expended; though we still think a well proportioned Tax on Property the most equal and just Way of raising Money.

If every Man who received our Bills of Credit in Payment, was obliged to keep them in his Hands till the End of Twenty Years, to be sure the Length of the Term would occasion a proportionable Depreciation. But they being a legal Tender in all Payments and the Possessor able to exchange them immediately for their Value, it is not Length of Term, but Excess of Quantity, that must occasion their Depreciation; and that Quantity is by this Bill yearly to diminish. Besides, the *Eighty Thousand Pounds* we have out on Loan, is now to sink in the next six Years, which will greatly lessen our Currency, and consequently lessen the Danger of the Depreciation.

If the Quantity should prove too great, which we believe it will not, a subsequent Act, laying Excise or Duty on other Commodities, encreasing the Duty *per* Gallon; raising it also from private Consumption, or obtaining Money by any other Means for the public Service, may be made, and the Money applied to the more speedy Sinking this *Sixty Thousand Pounds*.

2. There will probably be little or no Surplus left to the

Disposition of the Assembly. People now leave the Province faster than they come into it. The Importation of *Germans* is pretty much over. Many go from us to settle where Land is cheaper.—The Danger attending Frontier Settlements will probably be long remembered, even after a Peace may be restored. And if our Inhabitants diminish, the Excise will be lessened instead of being increased.—At its best, it produces, *communibus Annis*, not more than Three Thousand *Pounds per Annum.*

In former Excise Laws the Assembly have had the Disposition of the Whole.—They preserved the public Credit. Paid all public Debts punctually every Year.—And have not abused the Trust reposed in them.

The Instruction is not a Royal but Proprietary Instruction, calculated to establish arbitrary Government among us, to distress the Assembly and People, and put it out of their Power to support their Complaints at Home. It would moreover deprive us of a just Right and Privilege, enjoyed from the first Settlement of the Country.

3. Lord *Loudon is* a Nobleman distinguished by the great Trust the Crown hath placed in him. We have likewise received a high Character of his Integrity and Uprightness, which induces us to confide in him. The Chance of War (which Heaven prevent) may, after several Removes, give him a Successor unknown to us. If it should be found necessary and convenient before the Money is expended, the Governor and Assembly can at any Time, by a little Act, subject the Remainder to the Order of his Successor, the Commander in Chief for the Time being.

4. It is true, there was a Fund appropriated to sink the Notes issued for the Grant to the *Crown-Point* Expedition. That Fund in a great Measure fails by the Loss of one whole County to the Enemy, and the Abandoning considerable Parts of other Counties, where Lands mortgaged to the Loan-Office are situated. The whole Sum was appropriated to the King's Service. And if those Notes had not been issued, that assistance could not have been given, as our Affairs were then circumstanced. They cannot be redeemed in due Time by that Fund, without adding to the Distresses of the People, already too great, and the Public Credit ought to be kept up, as it may be wanted on some future Emergency. Besides, those Notes bear interest, and at this Time the Province is less able than ever to pay interest. We should now save Money by all Means in our Power.

5. Though the Law referred to may expire some Years before the Time limited in the Bill, yet as the Punishment is to be inflicted by Virtue of the present Law, and not by Virtue of the Law referred to, which is only referred to for the Description of the Punishment; and as that Law, after its Expiration, will still remain on our Records, we apprehend no Inconveniency can arise from the Reference objected to. If any should arise, a subsequent Act may remedy it.

6. By all former Excise Laws it was required of the Magistrates not to grant Recommendations till the Certificates of Payment of Excise were produced; but no Penalty was laid for their Non-compliance. A Law without a Penalty is vain. This has proved so; being generally disregarded. As it is *for the King*, tending to the more effectual Collection of the Excise granted, and by no Means difficult to be complied with by the Magistrates, we think it reasonable to fix a Penalty on that Breach of Duty.

7. If the Clause were, that the Collector should not be capable of being re-appointed after one Year, the Reason would have more Weight. But he may, and probably will, be continued from Year to Year, if he shews himself diligent in Collecting, and punctual in Paying his Collections to the Treasurer. We have found by Experience, that Officers appointed for long Terms, grow negligent of their Duty, and yet are not easily removed. Great Sums have thereby been lost to the Public. And we have had Instances of Collectors appointed to fill a Vacancy a Year before the Expiration of the Term, being extremely diligent, in order to recommend themselves to a Continuance after the Year should expire, which has proved much to the public Advantage. Our Sheriffs and Coroners, whose Duty is more hard to learn, are chosen from Year to Year, without any Inconvenience.

8, 9. In these Particulars, the Bill is comformable to former Excise Laws, which have received the Royal Assent, and no Inconvenience has arisen.

10. The Fund appropriated for sinking the *Five Thousand Pounds*, given for the *Canada* Expedition, was broke in upon by the late extraordinary Demands for public Money. *Five Thousand Pounds* was given in Provisions to General *Braddock*, and near *Four Thousand Pounds* more to cut a Road for the King's Service at the Instance of that General; besides large Sums for the Maintenance of *Indians*, extraordinary and expensive Treaties, &c. not expected or foreseen when the Fund was laid. It may therefore fall short, and the out-

standing Debts not pay the Whole, but however the Public Credit ought to be supported; and the new laid Excise is the most proper Fund to supply Deficiencies in the Old.

The House cannot be supposed insensible of the Distresses of their Fellow-Subjects on the Frontiers. Several of the Members reside there. They hoped they had in this Bill provided for those People the Means of speedy Assistance, and avoided all Objections. They see none now of Importance enough, in their Opinion, to prevent the Passage of the Bill. They grant the Money freely to the King's Use, and cannot admit of Amendments to a Money Bill: They therefore persuade themselves, that the Governor will consider the present Circumstances of the Province, and the Consequence of dispiriting the Inhabitants, by depriving them at this Time of their Privileges, without which they would think the Country scarce worth defending; and that he will not suffer a Proprietary Instruction, new, unjust, and unseasonable, to deprive his Majesty of a Grant so large, so freely given, and so necessary for his Service; and for the Preservation of the Proprietary Estate, as well as the securing the Lives and Fortunes of the Inhabitants, who promised themselves great Happiness in being placed immediately under his Care and Protection.

A Bill for the Relief of *Joseph Yeates*, a languishing Prisoner in the Goal of *Philadelphia*, with Respect to the Imprisonment of his Person, was brought in, according to the Leave of the House, read the first time, and ordered a second reading.

A Copy of the Notice sent by the said *Yeates* to his Creditor, or, in Case of his Absence to the Attorney of the said Creditor, was laid before the House and read.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down the engrossed Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, &c. with a verbal Message, that as the same had been compared and found to agree with the original, he was ready to pass it into a Law whenever the House should present it to him for that Purpose.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The House again resumed the Consideration of the Proprietary Instructions, relating to Money Bills, and, after some Time spent therein,

Ordered, That *John Hughes*, *Thomas Leech*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Masters* be a Committee to consider the said Instructions, and report their Opinion thereon to the House.

Ordered, That the same Committee do likewise (if they find they have sufficient Time during the Sitting of this Assembly) draw up a Representation of the present State of this Province, and report the same to the House.

Ordered, That *Joseph Trotter* and *Griffith Owen* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the House desire he would be pleased to appoint a Time when they shall wait upon him, in order to enact the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, &c. into a Law.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Message of the House, reported, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, he would be at the Council Chamber at a Quarter after Eleven o'Clock, in order to enact the Bill for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, &c. into a Law.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Daniel Roberdeau* see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, after it shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor.—And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with the Bill, entituled, *An Act for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City of* Philadelphia; *and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants, and Estates of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof*; to which the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting the same into a Law.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Law, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office, reported, that the same was done according to Order.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor returns the Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Sixty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use, and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise upon Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits.* And his Honour commands me to acquaint the House, that he *will not* give his

Assent to it; and there being no Person to judge between the Governor and the House in these Parts, he will immediately transmit to his Majesty his Reasons for so doing."

After some Time spent in the Consideration of the foregoing Message, the same was referred to further Consideration.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for the Relief of *Joseph Yeates*, a languishing Prisoner in the Goal of *Philadelphia*, with respect to the Imprisonment of his Person, was read the second time, and debated; and, after some Alterations made therein, it was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for the Relief of Joseph Yeates, a languishing Prisoner in the Goal of* Philadelphia, *with respect to the Imprisonment of his Person*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Joseph Stretch* and *Richard Pearn* do carry up the said Bill to the Governor for his Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the Bill for the Relief of *Joseph Yeates*, &c. report, that they had delivered the same according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would give it all the Dispatch in his Power.

The House resuming the Consideration of the Governor's Objections to the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and the Committee's Report thereupon, with the Governor's verbal Message refusing his Assent to the said Bill, and also the Proprietary Instructions, prescribing to the Representatives of the Freemen of this Province the Modes of their raising Money for the King's Service,

Resolved, That the said Proprietary Instructions are arbitrary and unjust, an Infraction of our Charter, a total Subversion of our Constitution, and a manifest Violation of our Rights, as freeborn Subjects of *England*.

Resolved, That the Bill for granting *Sixty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to which the Governor has been pleased to refuse his Assent, contains nothing "inconsistent with our Duty to the Crown, or the Proprietary Rights," and is agreeable to Laws which have been hitherto enacted within this Province, and received the Royal Approbation.

Resolved, That the Right of granting Supplies to the Crown is in the Assembly alone, as an essential Part of our Constitution, and the Limitation of all such Grants, as to the Matter, Manner, Measure and Time, is only in them.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, that the many frivolous Objections, which our Governors have been advised from Time to Time to make to our Money Bills, were calculated with a View to embarrass and perplex the Representatives of the People, to prevent their doing any Thing effectual for the Defence of their Country, and thereby render them odious to their gracious Sovereign, and to their Fellow-Subjects, both at Home and Abroad.

Resolved, That the Proprietaries encreasing their Restrictions upon the Governor, beyond what they had ever done before, at a Time when the Province is invaded by the King's Enemies, and barbarous Tribes of *Indians* are ravaging the Frontier Settlements, and their forbidding the Passing of any Bills whereby Money may be raised for the Defence of the Inhabitants, unless those Instructions are strictly complied with, is tyrannical, cruel and oppressive with Regard to the People, and extremely injurious to the King's Service: Since, if the Assembly should adhere to their Rights, as they justly might, the whole Province would be thrown into Confusion, abandoned to the Enemy, and lost to the Crown.

The House therefore, reserving their Rights in their full Extent on all future Occasions, and PROTESTING against the Proprietary Instructions and Prohibitions, do, neverthêless, in Duty to the King, and Compassion for the suffering Inhabitants of their distressed Country, and in humble but full Confidence of the Justice of his Majesty, and a *British* Parliament, wave their Rights on this present Occasion only; and do further *Resolve*, that a new Bill be brought in for granting a Sum of Money to the King's Use, and that the same be made conformable to the said Instructions, &c.

Ordered, That *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *Mahlon Kirkbride*, *Peter Dicks*, *Calvin Cooper*, *Joseph Armstrong*, *John Potts* and *William Edmonds* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for granting the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, to be struck in Paper Bills of Credit, and sunk by an Excise on spirituous Liquors within Ten Years.

Ordered, That *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Masters* be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for establishing and regulating the *Indian* Trade within this Province.

A Bill for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits, was brought in by the Committee appointed for that Purpose, read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House, a Letter from Governor *Dinwiddie*, dated *September* 8, 1756, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Bill for granting *Thirty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use was read the second time; and, after some Time spent in Consideration thereof, was ordered to be transcribed for a third Reading.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill, entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Thirty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits*, being transcribed, was read the third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That *Benjamin Franklin* and *William Masters* do carry up the same to the Governor for his Concurrence.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Bill for granting *Thirty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use according to Order; and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would take the said Bill into immediate Consideration, and let the House know his Result thereupon To-morrow Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The House met, and the Governor having by the Secretary requested that the House would meet again this Afternoon, as he had not yet come to any Result upon the Bill for granting *Thirty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, they accordingly Adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Bill entituled, *An Act for striking the Sum of* Thirty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit* &c. &c. requiring longer

Consideration than the present Sitting of the House will admit of, the Governor will return it, with his Answer, when the House meets on *Monday*."

Then the House adjourned to next *Second-day*, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The House met, pursuant to their Adjournment.

The Speaker brought to the House the Bill for the Relief of *Joseph Yeates*, and informed the House, that he had received the said Bill from the Secretary, who said that the Governor was ready to pass the same into a Law, whenever it should be presented to him for that Purpose.

The Speaker likewise brought to the House the Bill for granting *Thirty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, and informed the House, that he had received it from the Governor, who said that he was ready to pass the same into a Law whenever the House should present it to him for that Purpose, provided a Clause therein relating to the Fines and Forfeitures being paid into the Treasury was first struck out; which being agreed to by the House, on Account of the present Exigency of Affairs, the said Bill was ordered to be engrossed, together with the Bill for the Relief of *Joseph Yeates.*

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

The Speaker laid before the House a Copy of the Minutes of Council, relating to the *Susquehanna Indians*, &c. which he informed the House he had received from the Secretary for that Purpose; also a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel *Armstrong*, giving an Account of his Expedition to *Kittanning;* which were read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

The Bill for the Relief of *Joseph Yeates* being engrossed, was read and compared at the Table.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Bill for granting *Thirty Thousand Pounds* to the King's Use, being engrossed, was read, and compared at the Table.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Pennock* and *John Morton* wait upon the Governor, and acquaint him, that the two Bills which he has agreed to pass are engrossed, and the House desire he would be pleased to appoint two of his Council to join two Members of this House in comparing the same with the Originals.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had delivered the Message of the House according to Order, and that the Governor was pleased to say, that he would appoint two of his Council to meet such Members of this House as should be appointed to compare the engrossed Bills; and that he would be at the Council Chamber this Afternoon, in order to enact the said Bills into Laws.

Ordered, That *Joseph Fox* and *Thomas Leech* do meet the Members of Council appointed to compare the engrossed Bills with their Originals.

The Gentlemen return, and report, that they had done the same, according to Order, and found them to agree.

A Message from the Governor, by the Secretary:

SIR,

"The Governor requires the Attendance of the House in the Council Chamber, in order to enact the Bills agreed upon into Laws."

Ordered That *Joseph Fox* and *Thomas Leech* see the Great Seal affixed to the Laws, after they shall be passed, and the same deposited in the Rolls Office.

Then the Speaker, with the whole House, waited upon the Governor.—And being returned, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on the Governor with two Bills, entituled, as follow, *viz.*

An Act for striking the Sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds *in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise upon Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits.*

An Act for the Relief of Joseph Yeates, *a languishing Prisoner in the Goal of* Philadelphia *with Respect to the Imprisonment of his Person.*

To which Bills the Governor was pleased to give his Assent, by enacting them into Laws.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

The Gentlemen appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the Laws passed Yesterday, and the said Laws deposited in the Rolls Office, report, that the same was done, according to Order.

The Committee appointed to audit and settle the Public Accounts, made their Report in Writing, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table for the Examination of the Members.

The Committee of Accounts reported on an Order drawn by *James Burd*, and others, on the Speaker, in Favour of *Moses Starr* and *Henry Queckly*, Waggoners, for *Fifteen Pounds Five Shillings* and *Six-pence*, being for the Carriage of Blankets, Arms and Ammunition, granted by the Assembly for the Use of *Cumberland* County, that they were of Opinion the same ought to be paid by this House.—To which Report the House agreed, and an Order was accordingly drawn on the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, and signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, for Payment thereof to *William West*, who is impowered to receive the same.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Trustees of the *Province-Island* laid before the House a State of their Accounts; whereby it appeared, that there was a Balance of *Ninety-nine Pounds Five Shillings* and *Six-pence* in their Hands, due to the Province, which they were directed to pay into the Provincial Treasury, as the Law requires.

Resolved, That the Wages of the Members of this House, for the present Year, be paid by the respective County Treasurers, in the Manner directed by Law.

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-Morrow Morning.

Sundry Accounts for Public Services were laid before the House and read, and referred to the Committee of Incidental Charges.

Then the House adjourned to Three o'Clock, *P. M.*

The Committee appointed to consider the Proprietary Instructions, relating to Money Bills, and report thereon to the House, made a report in Writing, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

In Obedience to the Order of the House, we have considered the Proprietaries Eleventh, Twelfth, and Twenty-first Instructions, relating to Money Bills, and now offer such Remarks thereon as occur to us.

The Preamble to the Eleventh Instruction sets forth, "That the Interest Money arising from the Loan of Bills of Credit in this Province, was intended by the Proprietaries, and the House of Representatives, to be applied for the Public Service of the Province, and of the Inhabitants thereof, and should therefore, under the Direction of the same Power that raises it, be most carefully applied to those Purposes, as a greater Security to the People against Misapplications, than if it was intrusted only to one Branch of the Legislature; and such was the ancient Practice in their said Province." That the Interest Money was intended to be applied for the Public

Service of the Province, and of the Inhabitants thereof, is undoubtedly right; but that it was ever the "Practice," or that there was ever a single Instance of the Proprietaries or their Deputies having a Vote in the Application of the Interest Money, we must absolutely deny. Their Consent to the Disposition is not required in any of our Loan Acts from the Beginning to this Day, the constant Tenor of those Laws being, that the "Interest Money shall be disposed of as the Assembly of this Province shall from Time to Time order and direct." Their Consent was never asked, unless in the acceptance of Presents made them out of that Interest, which could not be forced on them without their Consent; and that Kind of Application they have indeed been graciously pleased to consent to from Time to Time, to the Amount of above *Thirty Thousand Pounds* given to themselves out of that Fund and the Excise. If this was a "Misapplication," and we know of no other, the Power they contend for would not have prevented it; for 'tis scarce probable they should ever disapprove or refuse to sign Acts, Votes or Resolves, which they thought so just and reasonable.

And indeed, had these Presents been always as regular as the Seasons, and never intermitted, be the Conduct of the Governor ever so inconsistent with the Public Good, your Committee have Reason to believe, this new Instruction had never been formed or thought of. But since the Representatives of the People have dared to signify their Disapprobation of a Governor's Measures, by withholding those Tokens of their Esteem, Affection and Gratitude, which were constantly given when they found themselves well governed; this Instruction is thought necessary to be inforced. Not "for the greater Security of the People against Misapplication;" for they never complained of any; but to *compel* your Continuance of those Presents; to *compel* an Addition to them, for they are thought too small; and to *compel* the Payment of what they are pleased to call the *Arrears* of such Presents to any Governors from whom they have at any Time been withheld. For if the People's Money cannot be disposed of for their own Benefit, without the Proprietary or his Deputy's Consent, the Passage of the Bill, or the Approbation of the Resolve, must be "*facilitated*," as the Proprietaries were pleased to tell us on a former Occasion, "*by a Regard to their* INTEREST,"—that is, by putting at the same Time into their private Pockets whatever Share of the Public Money they shall be pleased to insist on, under the specious Name of *Salary* or *Support;* though by the Quitrents, and even by their other Fees and Perquisites, established by Law or taken by Custom, they have already a Support much more than sufficient.

The Money arising by the Interest of the Bills of Credit, as well as that arising by the Excise, is paid wholly by the People. To dispose of their own Money, by themselves or their Representatives, is, in our Opinion, a natural Right, inherent in every Man, or Body of Men, antecedent to all Laws.—The Proprietaries pay no Part of this Money, and therefore can have no Right to a Share in the Power of disposing of it.—They might as reasonably claim a Right to a Negative in the Disposition of every Man's private Fortune, and for the same Reasons, to wit, "the Man's greater Security, and to prevent Misapplication;" nay, the Reasons would be stronger, Bodies of Men not being generally so apt to misapply their Money, as Single Prodigals.—The People have never complained that any such Misapplication has been made by their Representatives: On the Contrary, they have shewn their Approbation of the Conduct of the Assembly in this tender Point, by long repeated annual Elections of the same Men to the same Trust in the same Office. They have always seen their Money disposed of, from Time to Time, for the Advantage and Honour of the Public, or for the King's immediate Service, and they had Reason to be contented with the Disposition.—The Public Credit has been constantly preserved, and every Man who served the Government, has been always duly and readily paid: But if this new-claimed Negative in the Proprietaries takes Place, the People will not have it in their Power to reward the Man that serves them, or even to pay the Hire of the Labourer that works for them, without the Governor's Leave first purchased; much less will they be allowed to support an Agent in *England* to defend their Rights, or be able to pay the Expence of prosecuting their Complaints when oppressed.—And to prevent their doing this, is, we conceive, another *main View* of this Instruction.

In short, it does not appear to your Committee that this extraordinary instance of the Proprietary's Care of the People's Money, to prevent its being wasted by their own Representatives, was for the People at all necessary. Those Representatives themselves are a Part of the People, and must bear a Share of their Burdens. For their own Sakes, therefore, as well as to recommend themselves to the Esteem and Regard of their Constituents, it is highly probable they will execute that Trust, as they always have done, with

Justice, Prudence and Frugality; with Freedom to the King's Service, and grateful Generosity to Governors that sincerely seek their Welfare, and do not join with the Proprietaries to oppress them.—But this instruction might perhaps be necessary to *extort* those Grants to Governors which they have been pleased to stile *Salary*, and render That *certain*, which before depended on the *Good Will of the People*. For how else can the Proprietaries be sure of that Share of those Grants, which, *by their private Contracts sometimes made with their Governors, is* (if Report says true) *to be paid to themselves?*

The Proprietaries are however willing to permit the Renewal of the *Eighty Thousand Pounds*, which is now to sink in a few Years, and even to add *Forty Thousand Pounds* more, the Whole to be emitted on Loan, "*provided*, that the Eleventh Instruction be complied with, and half the Power of applying the Interest reserved to them; and *provided*, that all *Rents* and *Quitrents* due, or to be due or payable *to them*, be always paid according to the Rate of Exchange at the Times of Payment between *Philadelphia* and *London*, or some other sufficient Provision enacted in Lieu thereof, as was done by a former Act."—Your Committee cannot help observing here, that the Proprietaries *Tenderness for their own Interest* appears in this Instruction much stronger than their Care for That of the People. Very great Emoluments arise to them by Emissions of Paper Money on Loan, and the Interest Money is a Tax they are clear of. They are therefore willing the Quantity should be encreased; but whatever Advantages they receive from it, they are resolved to suffer no Disadvantage from any occasional Depreciation: For they will always be paid their Rents and Quitrents, *according to the Rate of Exchange between* Philadelphia *and* London. By the original Agreements, those Rents and Quitrents were to be paid in *Sterling* Money (or the Value in Coin current) to the Proprietary Receivers *in the Province*. A Bill of Exchange, besides the *Sterling* Sum conveyed, includes all the Freight, Risk and Expence of conveying that Sum in Specie to *London*. Now we conceive the People are not, nor can in Justice or Reason be, obliged to transmit their Rents to *London*, and pay them there to the Proprietaries. If the Proprietaries should think fit to remove to *China*, they might as justly add to their Demand the Rate of Exchange between *London* and *Canton*. This therefore is EXTORTION, and ought never to be allowed in any future Act, nor any Equivalent made for it. For had that Equivalent been really given as a Matter of Justice, and not extorted as Purchase Money for the Law, it would have been extended to the Rents of private Landlords, as well as those of the Proprietaries. Besides, the great Sums to be yearly remitted to them in *London*, for which no Returns come back to the Country, naturally tend to raise the Exchange; and even put it in the Power of their Agents to raise it occasionally, just before the periodical Times of Payment (to the great Injury of the People) and to lower it again at their Pleasure; a dangerous Power this, if no Inconvenience can arise to themselves by the Rise of Exchange! The Depreciation of Money in every Country where it happens is a common Calamity. The Proprietary Estate ought not to be exempt from it, at the Expence of all other Estates. There are many fixed Ground-Rents, and other Rents arising in the Province belonging to the People, and due to private Estates. These Rents have as much Right to be considered, and their Deficiency, in Case of Depreciation, provided for out of the Public Funds, as those of the Proprietaries. But of these they take no Care, so their own are secured. It appears however to your Committee, that all Rents in the Country ought to be on the same Footing, with regard to any Loss by the Depreciation of its Currency, since that is less likely ever to happen which it is the Interest of all to prevent.

Your Committee now come to the Twenty-first Instruction, by the Preamble of which it is insinuated, as if Acts for Provincial Taxes had been common in this Province; and that the Proprietary's Estate had been always exempted in such Acts; whereas the Truth is, that there never were but two or three, and those in the early Times of the Province, when the Proprietary's Circumstances were low, his Affairs encumbered, and the Quitrents so small, as to be insufficient for his Support, and therefore they were not only exempted from any Part of such Tax, but Duties and Licence Fees were granted to help them out.—For more than Forty Years, as the Excise and Interest Money have been sufficient for Support of Government, no Provincial Taxes have been levied (in this very Instruction, a little lower, they themselves acknowledge none have been raised in their Time) and the Proprietary Estate has vastly encreased: Those Licence Fees are also vastly encreased, and yet they still receive them. But that their Estate should now be exempt from Provincial Taxes, raised for the Defence of that very Estate, appears to us extremely unreasonable. During the Distress of the Family, there was likewise a voluntary Subscription among the People to pay the Proprietary's Passage to *England:* They may from thence as justly claim a Right of having their Expences borne by the Public whenever they cross the Seas.—But when those Aids were granted to the old Proprietary, he had a much better Claim to them than his Sons; for he undertook to act as an Agent and Advocate for his People, in *England;* to defend and secure their Rights and Privileges; not, like his Successors, to abolish and destroy them*.

The Instruction farther says, that "since the Expiration of those former Laws, no Aid hath ever been granted by the Assembly to them as Proprietaries." As Proprietaries, what Right have they to Aids? Are they not hereditary Governors of the Province? and while they have indulged themselves with an almost constant Residence in *England*, remote from their Country, and greatly to its Inconvenience and Prejudice, have not the Assemblies constantly supported their Deputy, sent by the Proprietaries to do what they ought themselves to have done in Person; though he was often an imperfect Deputy, restrained in those Powers which should always subsist and be present in every Government for the common Welfare? But they are pleased to say, "they have voluntarily and chearfully expended several considerable Sums of their own Money for the Advancement of the Province." This they said likewise to a former Assembly, and the Answer was, "We are *unacquainted* with these Expences; let the Accounts be laid before us, and whatever Expence appears to have been made for the Service of the Province shall be allowed, and repaid with Thanks."—Those Accounts have never yet appeared; and till they do, we think they ought not to be made the Foundation of any Claim whatever.

They say farther, "that they had no Reason to suspect that the Assembly would deviate so much from the former Usage, as to pretend, *by any Act of theirs*, to charge the Proprietary Estate in the Province with the Burden of any Taxes." Amazing! If the Assembly deviated from the former Usage, by taxing their own Estates, and those of their Constituents (their usual Funds failing) why should they not deviate in the same Manner in taxing the Proprietary Estate? And what are the particular Merits of this Family, that when the whole *British* Nation, when every Estate in the Kingdom, as well as

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*This he faithfully executed in many Instances, and particularly in his Answer to the Lords of Trade's Objections to the Act of Privileges to a Freeman, in the Year 1705; in which he informed their Lordships, that the Act was agreeable to the great Charter which all *Englishmen* were entitled to;—and that "we went not so far *(i. e.* from *England* to *America)* to lose a Tittle of it."

in this Province, is taxed, towards the Recovery and Defence of their Estate in *Pennsylvania*, that very Estate alone should be exempted, and they so confident of its Right to an Exemption, as to *have no Reason to suspect* the Assembly would attempt to tax it?

But it seems "the Assembly have represented them in an untrue Light, as if unwilling to assist the Public, by contributing towards the Defence of the Country, though no Application had ever once been made to them for that Purpose." How far they are placed in an *untrue* Light on this Account, will, we presume, appear before we finish this Report. It appears too, by a Report of a former Committee.—They likewise say, "no Application was ever once made to them for their Assistance towards the Defence of the Country." Heretofore it was thought the Country was best defended by maintaining Peace and a good Understanding with the *Indians*. This was done from Year to Year by expensive and repeated Presents. The Proprietary reaped great Advantages from this good Understanding and these Presents, in his Bargains with the *Indians* for Lands. The Expences grew yearly more and more heavy, and repeated humble Applications were made to the Proprietaries, that they would be pleased *to bear a Part*, but without Success. They vouchsafed indeed an Answer to the last Application, but it was to reject it with the utmost Pride and Scorn, claiming *an inherent Right of Exemption* of their Estate *from all public Charges whatsoever*, in Virtue of their being Governors as well as Proprietaries. And the *Sixty Thousand Pound* Bill is called an Attempt of the Assembly by "*an Act of theirs*," to charge the Proprietary Estate, as if they had presumed to do it alone by their own Authority. The Assembly could not possibly think of taxing the Proprietary Estate, without the Consent of the Proprietaries by their Deputy; the Bill was therefore another humble Application to the Proprietaries for their Consent to a Thing so reasonable; and the very Stile of it was, "*we pray* that it may be enacted." But that Prayer could not be granted, though the Province was on the Brink of Ruin. And yet, it seems the Proprietaries were not "unwilling;" though their Deputy declared they had expressly *restrained* him even by the Words of his Commission!—The Bill however is stigmatized with the Character of "*most unjust* and *extraordinary*." Thus it is, when Men judge in their own Cases. These Gentlemen think it *unjust* to tax their Estates, though all the World thinks otherwise. As Provincial Taxes had not been usual, it might be *so far* extraordinary; but the Mode of Taxation was by no Means extraordinary, being the same with that of raising our County Rates and Levies, long used and approved by the Province.—And the Taxing of Proprietary Lands is used both in *New Jersey* and *Maryland;* and located unimproved Lands have formerly been taxed in this Province. Had such been taxed every where from the first Settlement of *America*, we conceive it would have tended to the Encrease of the Inhabitants, and the greater Strength of the Colonies; for then such immense Quantities of Land would not have been monopolized and lain dormant, but People would more easily have obtained Settlements, and been seated closer together.

But the Proprietaries would have it understood, that it is not for their own Sake only, that they object to the *Fifty Thousand Pound* Bill which was refused, or the *Sixty Thousand Pound* Act that passed. They are tenderly concerned for the Estates of others. No Part of the Lands of a Delinquent, who refuses or neglects to pay his Tax, ought, in their Opinion, to be sold for Payment; though Lands in *America* are by Act of Parliament made liable to be sold for Discharge of Debts, and were almost always so here by the Laws of this Province. If Lands, or Parts of Land, may be sold to satisfy *private*, why not *public* Debts? And though it be unusual in *England*, it has long been the Practice, as we are informed, in several of the Colonies, particularly in *New England*. But they say, "a Tax of *One Shilling* in the *Pound* on the whole Value, is what never was laid, nor can possibly be paid, in any Country." Strange! May not a Country in imminent Danger give a Twentieth Part of their Estates to save the other Nineteen? Is it impossible even to give a Half, or three Fourths, to save the other Half or Quarter? May they not even give Nineteen Parts to save the Twentieth? The Proprietary's Gift of *Five Thousand Pounds*, they afterwards say, is twenty times more than their Tax, if fairly and equally assessed, could by that Bill have amounted to. If so, it is possible to give the whole twenty Parts.—But it has always been understood, that Estates are not to be taxed to the full Value they might singly sell for. In the same Bill it was provided, that located unimproved Lands should not be valued in the Rates at more than *Fifteen Pounds per* Hundred Acres; when 'tis well known, that the Proprietary's lowest Price for wild Land on the Frontiers is *Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings per* Hundred; and that the located unimproved Lands in their Manors, are, some of them, valued at *Three* or *Four Hundred Pounds per* Hundred; they may therefore well say, that "if that Tax had been FULLY assessed, it must have amounted to many times the Sum;" but then their next Assertion is somewhat inconsistent, *viz.* That the Bill laying this Tax was "most unjustly calculated for the Purpose of putting it in the Power of the Assessors to tax the Proprietary Estates *up to the full Value*, and to ease other Persons, by taxing them so lightly as only to make up *the Residue* of the *Fifty Thousand Pounds, in which Case*, much the *greatest Part* of the Burden might have been laid on the Proprietary Estates alone."—The Value of the Proprietary Estate has long, for prudential Reasons, been kept a profound Secret; and the Proprietaries have lately given *Five Thousand Pounds* rather than submit it to the Enquiry of the Assessors. But your Committee conceive some Light may be obtained on that Head, from this Part of the Instruction compared with the *Fifty Thousand Pound* Bill. By that Bill their wild unsurveyed, or unlocated Lands, which are many Millions of Acres, were not to be taxed at all, though they never sell any of them for less than *Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings per* Hundred Acres.—Their taxable Estate consists chiefly in located (though uncultivated) Tracts and Manors, and in the reserved Quitrents arising from the Lands they have sold. These Manors and Tracts are generally choice, being of the best Lands, picked out of every new Purchase from the *Indians*, by their Surveyors, before the Office is opened, and laid by for a Market, not to be disposed of till all the surrounding Lands are sold and settled. This has encreased their Value prodigiously, so that they are now, one with another, valued at more than *Three Hundred Pounds per* Hundred: Yet by the Bill, they were not to be taxed as worth more than *Fifteen Pounds per* Hundred.—And they own, that by the same Bill, "their *Quitrents* were to be taxed in the *same Manner* as *other Estates*," consequently as great an Abatement to be made in the Valuation. And yet by this same Bill, under this very moderate Valuation of their Estate, they say it would have been in the Power of the Assessors to have laid *much the greatest Part* of the Burden on their Estates *alone*. Now, *much the greatest Part* of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* may be *Forty Thousand Pounds*, but we will say (for Moderation's Sake) it is only *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, and that Sum might have been raised by that Bill, on the Proprietary Estates, in two Years, by a Tax of *One Shilling* in the *Pound*, i. e. *Fifteen Thousand Pounds per Annum.* The Shillings in Fifteen Thousand Pounds are Three Hundred Thousand, consequently their Estates at that low Valuation are worth *Three Hundred Thousand Pounds.* But if you multiply that Valuation by 20, to bring it nearer the Truth, those Estates must amount to *Six Millions*, exclusive of their wild Lands as aforesaid. If this Computation be too high, they may be able hereafter to shew its Mistakes. At present, we conceive the Consequences fairly drawn from Facts and their own Premises.—And yet this their enormous Estate is, by their Instructions, to be exempted, while all their Fellow-Subjects groan under the Weight of Taxes for its Defence! it being the first attacked in the present War, and Part of it on the *Ohio*, the Prize contended for by the Enemy.—For though they, towards the End of this Instruction, pretend to be "most ready and willing to bear a just Proportion along with their Tenants in any necessary Tax for the Defence of the Province," yet this appears clearly to be a *mere Pretence*, since they absolutely except their Quitrents, and their located unimproved Lands, their Fines, and the Purchase-Monies they have at Interest; that is, in a Manner, their *whole Estate*, as your Committee know of little they have left to be taxed, but a Ferry-house or two, a Kitchen, and a Dog Kennel.

But unimproved Lands should not, in our Proprietaries Opinion, pay any Taxes, because "they yield no annual Profit." This may deceive People in *England* (where the Value of Land is much at a Stay) as they are unacquainted with the Nature of Landed Estates in growing Plantations. Here new Lands, without Cultivation, without Fencing, or so much as cutting down a Tree, being reserved and laid by for a Market till the surrounding Lands are settled, improve much more in yearly Value even than Money at Interest upon Interest.—Thirty Years ago, the best and richest Lands near the Proprietary's *Conestogoe* Manor, were worth and sold for about *Forty Pounds per* Hundred Acres.—That Manor was then laid out and reserved, containing near Seventeen Thousand Acres: And now the Lands of that very Manor, which, though so long located, have never yet been cultivated, will sell for *Three Hundred* and *Fifty Pounds per* Hundred Acres; which is near *Nine* for *One*, or *Eight Hundred per Cent*, Advance! Can an Estate thus producing *Twenty-five per Cent per Annum* on the prime Cost, be, with any Propriety, called "*an Estate yielding no annual Profit?*" Is it not a well known Practice in the Colonies, to lay out great Sums of ready Money for Lands, without the least Intent of Cultivation, but merely to sell them again hereafter? Would People follow this Practice if they could not make more Profit of their Money in that Way than by employing it in Improvement of Land, in Trade, or in putting it to Interest, though Interest in the Plantations is from *Six* to *Ten per Centum?* Does not such Land, though otherwise *unimproved*, improve continually in its Value? How mean and unjust is it then, in these Gentlemen, to attempt to conceal the Advantages of this Kind of Estate, and screen it from Taxes, by lurking under the *ambiguous* and *deceitful* Terms, of *unimproved* Lands, and *Lands yielding no annual Profit?*

Meanly unjust indeed, in this Instance, do they appear to your Committee; who cannot but observe, that the Proprietaries, knowing their own Inclinations to screen their own Estates, and load those of the People, from thence suspected the People might be equally unjust, and intend, by the *Fifty Thousand Pound* Bill, to ease *their* Estates, and load those of the Proprietaries. "The Bill, say they, appears to us to be *most unjustly calculated*, for the Purpose of putting it in the Power of Persons, wholly chosen by the People, to tax our Estates up to the full Value therein mentioned, and to ease other Persons by taxing them so lightly, as only to make up the Residue that might be wanted to complete the *Fifty Thousand Pounds.* In which Case the Persons chosen by the People might have laid *by much the greatest Part* of the Burden upon our Estates alone."—Had they intended to raise *much the greatest Part* of the Tax of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* on the Proprietaries Estate, would the House so readily have accepted of *Five Thousand Pounds* in Lieu of their Share of that Tax?—But why this Suspicion of the Assembly? What Instance of Injustice can the Proprietaries charge them with, that could give Ground for such a Supposition? If they were capable of such an Intention, and an Endeavour to get *Iniquity established by a Law*, must they not be the most unjust and dishonest of Men? The Assessors, it is true, are chosen by the People; they always were so by our Laws; and let a Man's Estate be ever so great, he has but one Vote in the Choice of them: But have the Proprietaries no Friends in their Province? What is become of all their Dependents and Expectants; those in Place, or hoping for Places; the Thousands in their Debt; the Mortgagors at their Mercy? Will none of these, out of Love, or Hope, or Fear, vote for honest Assessors, that may take Care the Proprietary is not oppressed by the Weight of an unjust Tax?—Could the Assembly be certain, that the whole People were so wicked, as to join in chusing and trusting Sets of dishonest Assessors, merely to wrong the Proprietary? Are there no Laws in the Province against Perjury? Are not the Assessors by Law to be sworn or affirmed to assess themselves and all others impartially; and have they not always been chosen as Men of Note for Probity and Justice? What a dark Prospect must a Man's own Heart afford him, when he can *from thence* form such Ideas of the Hearts of a whole People! A People famous throughout the World, for the Justice and Equity of their Laws, the Purity of their Manners, their Humanity and Hospitality to Strangers, their Affection to their late honoured Proprietary, their Faithfulness in their Manufactures and Produce, and Uprightness in all their Dealings! and to whose Virtue and Industry these very Gentlemen owe all their present Greatness!

The Proprietaries are pleased farther to say, "That the laying Taxes on the real Value of the Fee-simple, and the Sale of Land for the Payment of Taxes, are contrary to the Laws and Statutes of *Great-Britain.*" Your Committee cannot find that any Laws or Statutes were ever made in *Great-Britain* to regulate the Mode of laying Taxes in the Plantations; and if there are none such ,our Bill could not be *contrary to* what never existed. In *Virginia* the Taxes are laid on Slaves, and paid in Tobacco; and every Colony has its own Mode of Taxation, suited to its own Circumstances, almost all different from each other as well as from that used in *England.* But *different from*, and *contrary to*, we conceive to be distinct and different Things; otherwise many of our Laws, even those which have been approved at Home, and received the Royal Assent, are *contrary to* the Laws of *England.*—But as we said before, the Laws of *England* themselves make Lands liable to pay Debts in the Colonies, and therefore to sell them, or a Part of them, to pay public Debts, is not contrary to, but conformable with, the Laws of *England.*

But the Proprietaries "cannot find that the Quitrents reserved to the Crown—in any of the other *American* Colonies, have ever been taxed towards the raising any Supplies granted in those Colonies; and indeed those Quitrents are generally *so small* (meaning the King's Quitrents, we suppose, for their own surely are *large enough)* that little or no Land Tax would be due or payable on them, if arising in *Great-Britain,* &c."—If your Committee are rightly informed, the King's Quitrents in the other Colonies, are applied to *public* Purposes, generally for the Service of the Colony that raises them. When our Proprietaries shall think fit to apply those arising here in the *same Manner*, we believe no Assembly will attempt to tax them. The Smallness of the Parts, we cannot conceive to be a good Reason for not taxing the Whole. Where every Man worth less than *Twenty Shillings* a Year is exempt from Taxes, he who enjoys a *Thousand* a Year might, as well as our

Proprietaries, plead to be excused, for that his Income is only *Twenty Thousand Shillings*, each of which Shillings is far within the Sum exempted by Law.—In the Whole, though what arises from each Estate be no great Sum, their Quitrents must amount to a very great Revenue; and their speaking of them in the diminutive Terms of *very small Quitrents or Acknowledgments*, is only to amuse and deceive. They are Property; and Property should pay for its own Preservation. They ought therefore to be taxed to the Defence of the Country.—The Proprietaries indeed say, a Land Tax was unnecessary, as there are *many other Ways of raiseing Money*. They would doubtless chuse any Way in which their Estate could not be included.—But what are those *many other Ways?*—*Britain*, an independent State, can lay infinite Duties, on all foreign Wares, and imported Luxuries. We are suffered little foreign Trade, and almost all our Superfluities are sent us from *Britain* itself. Will they permit us to discourage their Importation by heavy Imposts? or to raise Funds by taxing her Manufactures? A Variety of Excises and Duties serve only to multiply Offices and Officers, and to make a Part of the People pay for another Part who do not chuse to pay. No Excise or Duty was ever a fair and equal Tax on Property. —The fairest, as the Proprietaries themselves have acknowledged, is a Poundage on all real and personal Estate, according to its Value.

We are now to hear of the Generosity of the Proprietaries, who, as they say, "were so far from desiring not to contribute to the Defence and Support of his Majesty's Rights and Dominions, that *immediately* on the first Notice of the Defeat of General *Braddock*, they had sent over an Order upon their Receiver General, to pay *Five Thousand Pounds* as a free Gift towards the Defence of the said Province."—We may presume to ask, why, when they knew the Assemblies were continually worried to give Money, and the Bills in which it was offered as constantly rejected; why did they not unmanacle their Governor, and at the same Time set an Example of Zeal for the common Cause by a generous Gift on their Part, before they heard of that Defeat? Why not as soon as they knew he was sent to *America?* Why not on *Washington's* Defeat, or before his first Expedition, as soon as ever their Province was attacked, and they learnt that the Enemy had built a Fort in it?—But the Truth is, the Order was sent, *not immediately* on the News of *Braddock's* Defeat; the Date of the Order will shew that it was a Month after that News arrived in *England*. But it was *immediately* after they had

Advice, that the Governor had refused a Grant of *Fifty Thousand Pounds* to the Crown for the Defence of the Proprietaries Province, because their Estate was taxed in the Bill, alledging Restrictions from them on that Head; against which all the World exclaimed, and an universal Odium was falling on their Heads, and the King's Wrath justly dreaded; then it was, that the boasted Order issued. And yet, as soon as their Fears subsided, it was sincerely repented, and every underhand Step taken to get the Act, in which their Gift was fixed, disapproved at Home; though, if they had succeeded, when the Bills emitted were abroad, and in the Hands of the Public, many of the poor Soldiers, who had received them in Pay for their Services, would have been ruined, and Multitudes of others greatly injured.—And after all, this *Free Gift*, to be *immediately* paid, is *not yet* paid, though more than a Year is elapsed since the Order was given;—and Contracts, entered into by the Commissioners in Confidence of receiving that Money, are yet unsatisfied, to the Loss and Disappointment of many, and great Detriment to the Service.

However, if we will have a Land Tax, they are pleased to form a Bill for us, or at least to direct what Clauses shall be in, and what shall not be in it, thus violating the most essential Right of the Commons in a *British* Constitution!—and with this particular Injunction, that the Tax shall be laid for no more than one Year; and shall not exceed *Four Shillings* in the *Pound* on the Income; which, estimating Estates at twenty Years Purchase, is about a Fifth of a Twentieth, or, in plainer Words, a hundredth Part of the Value. Perhaps this may be well enough in Times of Tranquility; but when a Province is invaded, must it be given up to the Enemy, if a Tax of the hundredth Penny is not sufficient to save it?—Yes, that is our present Situation; for the Proprietaries Instructions are, it seems, unalterable.—Their Governor is bound to observe and inforce them, and must see the King's Province perish before his Eyes, rather than deviate from them a single Tittle. This we have experienced within a few Days, when Advantage being cruelly taken of our present unhappy Situation, the prostrate Condition of our bleeding Country, the Knife of the Savages at her Throat, our Soldiers ready to mutiny for Want of Pay and Necessaries, our People flying in Despair from the Frontier for want of Protection, the Assembly was compelled (like *Solomon's* true Mother) to wave her Right, to alter our Money-Bills, abridge our free Grant to the Crown by one Half, and, in short, to receive and enact a Law not agreeable to our Judgments, but such as was made for us by the Proprietary

Instructions, and the Will and Pleasure of the Governor's Council; whereby our Constitution and the Liberties of our Country are wounded in the most essential Part, and even violated and destroyed.—We have Reason to confide, however, in the Justice of our Sovereign and a *British* Parliament, that this Tyranny shall not long subsist; and we hope no Time will be lost in making the proper Application.

In fine, we must say, in Justice to the House, that the Proprietary's Charge against the Assembly, as "being inclined by their Authority to tax the Proprietary Estate dispro- "portionately, &c." is, to our Knowledge, groundless and unjust. They had as little *Inclination* as *Authority* to *wrong* him. They have not, it seems, *Authority* enough to oblige him to do *Justice.* As to their *Inclination*, they bear, every one of them, and maintain, the Character to HONEST MEN. When the Proprietaries shall be *truly* willing to bear an equitable Part of the Public Burden; when they shall renounce their exorbitant Demand of *Rent as the Exchange shall then be;* make Restitution of the Money which they have exacted from the Assemblies of this Province, and sincerely repent of their Extortion, they may then, *and not till then*, have some claim to the same NOBLE TITLE.

Submitted by the Committee to the Correction of the House.

The Speaker laid before the House Extracts of two Letters from Commodore *Spry*, at *Halifax*, to *Michael Lovell*, a Gentleman in this City, mentioning the Arrival of the Seamen sent by this Province for his Majesty's Fleet on that Station, which were read, and are as follow, *viz.*

August 5, 1756.

" 'Tis impossible to conceive how much I am obliged to the Gentlemen of *Pennsylvania* for their ready Concurrence in supplying his Majesty's Ships in *North-America* with such a Number of Seamen, at their Government's Expence; and I must entreat you to make my most grateful Acknowledgments to your Speaker, and the rest of the Gentlemen concerned in it."

August 7, 1756.

"I have joined Mr. *Holmes*, and we are now under Sail, with a fair Wind, for *Louisbourg.* Last Night a Ship luckily arrived with Twenty-nine Seamen more from the People of your good Province: God bless them! I shall ever gratefully remember and acknowledge it. I have the Seamen all on board my own Ship, except four that are sick at the Hospital."

Then the House adjourned to Ten o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

Orders were drawn on the Trustees of the Loan-Office, by Order of the House, for the Payment of *Joseph Morris's* and *William Fisher's* Accounts, for Cloathing for the *New-England* Troops, and for the Sums paid by the Speaker, and *Benjamin Franklin*, for the said Cloathing, as *per* Account laid before the House on the Third of *December* last, and entered on the Minutes of that Day.

Ordered, That *Joseph Armstrong's* Wages, as a Member of this House for the present Year for the County of *Cumberland*, be paid by the Trustees of the General Loan-Office, in Consideration of the present Circumstances of the said Member, and County.

The Report of the Committee upon the Proprietary Instructions relating to Money-Bills, being again read, and considered, was unanimously approved of, and agreed to by the House.—And it was

Resolved, N. C. D. That it is the Opinion of this House, that it is highly necessary a Remonstrance be drawn up, and sent Home to *England*, setting forth the true State of *Pennsylvania*, and representing the pernicious Consequences to the *British* Interest, and to the Inhabitants of this Province, if we are, contrary to our Charters and Laws, to be governed by Proprietary Instructions.—And as this House have not sufficient Time to go through a Matter of such Importance, it is therefore earnestly recommended to the next succeeding Assembly.

The Report of the Committee of Accounts was approved of, and allowed by the House, and is as follows, *viz.*

We the COMMITTEE *appointed by the Assembly for the Province of* Pennsylvania *to audit and settle the Accounts of the* GENERAL LOAN-OFFICE, *and other Public Accounts, to sink and destroy the Bills of Credit received in Exchange pursuant to the several Paper Money Acts, and to count all the Money, and report what Sum we should actually find in the Trustees Hands, REPORT,*

That on the Twenty-seventh Day of August, we counted the Money in the Hands of the Trustees of the Loan-Office, and found the Sum of		£ 3,094 2 3
*And in Provincial Notes, which we the Committee have burnt,		
Principal,	£ 3,490 0 0	
on which Interest,	184 11 0	
		3,674 11 0

That upon a strict Examination of all the Mortgage Deeds (whereon any Quotas are due) taken by Virtue of all the Acts of Assembly for emitting Bills, and now remaining in the Loan-Office undischarged,

We find there are principal Sums, or Quotas thereon to become due (after the 18th Day of August) and payable to the Trustees the Sum of	£ 45,732 15 0		
That the Quotas outstanding, and at that Time due on all the Mortgage Deeds in the said Office, amounted to	20,837 11 8	£ 66,570 6 8	
That it appears by a list of 42 Mortgages, taken on the 9th Remission of the second £80,000 Act, that the Trustees have lent out thereon, the Sum of	£ 2,598 15 0		
That by a list of 7 Mortgages, taken on the 10th Re-emission of the same Act, they have lent out thereon, the Sum of	429 0 0	£ 3,027 15 0	
		£ 69,598 1 8	
That the Amount of the principal Sums or Quotas, to balance, is		10,401 18 4	£ 80,000 0 0
That the Trustees, on Account of Interest arising from all the Mortgages, lent out in Pursuance of the several Acts of Assembly, are charged with the Balance due to the Province at the Settlement last Year,	£ 1,195 18 8		
And with the Interest outstanding on all the Mortgage Deeds at last Settlement,	8,625 5 9	£ 9,821 4 5	
To the Interest arising on all the Mortgages for the current Year,	£ 2,754 14 10½		
To broken Interest received since last Settlement,	1,480 3 8		
To Interest received at Discharge of several Mortgages	36 0 0	£ 4,270 18 6½	£ 14,092 2 11
Balance,			3,497 8 11
			£ 17,589 11 10

*To an additional Sum of £3,674 11 0 to be added to the above Balance, which makes the whole Balance on the Interest Account, £ 7,171 19 11.

That the Trustees have Credit for the Interest outstanding and due to the Province on the 18th Day of August, which upon a careful Examination of the Indorsements upon all the Mortgages, appears to amount to	£ 8,905 10 6
Also for sundry Sums paid by them for Account of the Province, viz.	
By Cash paid Sundries for Assemblymens Wages,	1,203 6 6
By Ditto paid sundry Persons, for cutting a Road towards Ohio,	2,649 7 2

By Ditto paid Benjamin Franklin, for his Advance to Enoch Williams and John Moore, ...	18	15	0	
By Ditto paid Townsend White, for Colden and Kelly's Draught on B. F.	709	19	0	
By Ditto paid George Ashbridge, what he advanced to Joseph Armstrong, viz. One hundred Pounds Principal, and Two Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Six-pence Interest thereon, ...	102	17	6	
By Ditto paid Samuel Neave, for Goods furnished the Indians, ...	114	2	10	
By Ditto paid John Guy, for hauling Sand,	0	6	0	
By Ditto paid Joseph Fox, what he advanced for sundry Captains Expenses, ...	4	6	9	
By Ditto paid Isaac Norris (Speaker) for the Agents Salaries, £200 Sterling, at 72½ p. Cent.	345	0	0	
By Ditto paid James Pemberton, for the Agents Draughts on the House, £300 Sterling at 72½ per Cent, ...	517	10	0	
By Ditto paid John Harris, his Account for Indian Expenses, ...	10	9	2	
By Ditto paid Samuel Kirke, and others, for Wood, ...	27	13	10	
By Ditto paid George Croghan, the Amount of two Errors in a former Account, ...	124	15	0	
By Ditto paid Sundries for Andrew Montour his Wife and Children, ...	74	12	11	
By Ditto paid Jonathan Carmalt, for Sundries for Indian Moses, ...	3	2	6	
By Ditto paid George Hitner and Thomas Webster, for Sundries for Jonathan and Philip Almity, ...	17	11	8	
By Ditto paid Hugh Roberts, for the Signers of the £ 10,000, ...	160	13	9	
By Ditto paid Samuel Gwyn 3 l. Sarah Morrow 3 l. James Ferguson 3 l, and Matthias Ganford 3 l. for their distressed Circumstances, ...	12	0	0	
By the Trustees Salary, ...	500	0	0	
By Cash paid Evan Morgan, to supply the Back Inhabitants with Necessaries, ...	290	1	0	
By Ditto paid J. Blackwood, A. Weaver and W. Henry, for Maintenance of Soldiers Wives, ...	66	15	0	
By Ditto paid John Harris, for Maintenance of Indians, ...	40	0	0	
By Ditto paid Charles Brockden, ...	66	12	0	
By Ditto paid William Denyce, for Guns and Powder, ...	258	0	0	
Carried forward	£ 16,223	8	1	
Debit brought over				£ 17,589 11 10
Credit brought over	£ 16,223	8	1	
By Ditto paid Conrad Weiser, for Indians,	50	0	0	
By Ditto paid Thomas Leech for the State-house, ...	731	0	0	
By Ditto paid James Wright, for Provisions for General Braddock, ...	50	0	0	
By Ditto paid Richard Hockley, for the Proprietaries, ...	130	0	0	
By Ditto paid William Griffitts, what he paid Capt. E. Josiah, for Dispatches, ...	8	0	0	
By Ditto paid Joseph Fox, for Indian Treaty at Easton, ...	300	0	0	
By Ditto paid for a Silk Map, and for Boxes to inclose Papers sent to the Agents, ...	1	6	6	
By Allowance of 55s. per Thousand Pound, on £1,151 17 6 sunk, of torn and ragged Bills, ...	3	3	3	

By Ditto of 60s. per Thousand Pound, on £ 4,571 16 6 sunk of Ditto,	13 14 6	
	£ 17,510 12 4	
By Cash paid Sundries, for one Year's Interest on sundry Provincial Notes, amounting to £ 1,455 0 0 Principal, at Five per Cent,	72 15 0	
By a Loss on John David's and Daniel Wright's Mortgages,	6 4 5	
		£ 17,589 11 10
By Cash paid for Provincial Notes, which we the Committee have burnt;		
Principal,	£ 3,490 0 0	
Interest,	184 11 0	3,674 11 0

We do likewise report, that we have examined the Provincial Treasurer's Account, and find,

That he Credits the Province with the Balance due at last Settlement,	£ 280 11 4	
And by Cash received of Joseph Redman, Collector of Excise for the City and County of Philadelphia,	1,745 9 8	
By Ditto of John Woolston, Collector for Bucks,	200 0 0	
By Ditto of David M'Connaughy, Collector for York,	41 14 0	
By Ditto of Arthur Patterson, Collector for Lancaster,	101 0 9	
By Ditto of James Lindsay, Collector for Cumberland,	30 13 0	
By Ditto of Daniel Craig, Collector for Northampton,	36 3 0	
By Ditto of Jeremiah Starr, Collector for Chester,	297 10 9	
By Ditto of Joseph Fox, as Trustee of the Province Island,	97 1 0	
By Ditto of John Bassonet, Surety for John Hall,	10 0 0	
		£ 2,840 3 6

That he Charges the Province with sundry Sums paid in Pursuance of the Votes or Orders of the House, viz.

To Cash paid Conrad Weiser, per Order of Assembly,	£ 59 3 7
To Ditto paid William Baker, for Bread for Indians,	11 16 0
To Ditto paid William Buchanan, Horse-hire for Express,	1 12 6
To Ditto paid Joseph Fox, for immediate Service to the House,	8 2 0
To ditto paid John Elder, for three Hogs taken by the Indians,	3 0 0
To Ditto paid John Smith, to pay Indian Expenses,	29 6 11
To Ditto paid William Franklin, for service to the House,	35 14 0
To Ditto paid George Honey, for Indian Expenses,	10 4 5
To Ditto paid Thomas Jarvis, for Ditto,	50 11 3
To Ditto paid Charles Brockden, for recording Laws,	4 16 5
To Ditto paid John Harris, for his Trouble, and Indian Expenses,	77 7 8
To Ditto paid Samuel Kirke, for Services to the House,	8 0 0
To Ditto paid Edward Kelly, for cleaning the House, &c.	2 11 0

To Ditto paid Thomas Walker, for Meat for the Indians,	43	19	3
To Ditto paid Richard Hockley, for affixing the Great Seal,	6	3	0
To Ditto paid Richard Peter's Account, exhibited to September 30, 1755,	12	12	6
To Ditto paid Ditto, his Salary as Clerk to the Council,	15	0	0
To Ditto paid Ditto for Adam Terence, for Indians, &c.	7	16	0
To Ditto paid Edmund Nihel, for Beer for the Indians,	2	0	0
To Ditto paid William Callender, for immediate Service,	8	2	0
To Ditto paid Charles Stow, for summoning Councils,	5	12	6
To Ditto paid Hannah Boyd, for Indian Expences,	10	5	1
To Ditto paid William Davis, for a Litter for a lame Indian,	0	8	6
To Cash paid Michael Teaff, for dieting of Indians,	25	10	0
To Ditto paid Adam Terence, for his Trouble with Indians,	4	7	4
To Ditto paid Christopher Folk, for Services on the Ohio Road,	0	17	0
To Ditto paid Caleb Evans, for shoeing Indians Horses,	4	16	6
To Ditto paid William Smith, for Rum for the Indians,	2	13	3
To Ditto paid Edward Kelly, for Disbursements for Indians,	14	17	1
To Ditto paid Ditto, in full of his Account,	2	18	8
To Ditto paid George Honey, for Indian Expenses,	8	0	9
To Ditto paid William Franklin, for immediate Services,	109	4	9
To Ditto paid the honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esq; the Balance of his Account for Indian and other public Expences paid by him,	564	16	4
To Ditto paid Dr. Thomas Græme, for Medicines and Attendance on Indians, ..	26	3	8
To Ditto paid Joshua Pearson, and seven other Constables,	8	10	0
To Ditto paid Evan Morgan, for immediate Services,	8	2	0
To Ditto paid Plunket Fleeson, for putting up Window Curtains,	1	9	6
To Ditto paid Lawrence Growdon, second Judge, his Salary,	60	0	0
To Ditto paid William Franklin, for Postage of public Letters to the Governor,	20	0	0
To Ditto paid Ditto, for Postage of Ditto to the Speaker,	1	3	1
To Ditto paid John Clark, Goaler, for dieting Michael Russel, a suspected French Spy,	8	7	0
To Ditto paid Joseph Strech, for immediate Services,	8	2	0
To Ditto paid Richard Peters, in full for Expresses,	124	13	6
To Ditto paid James Wright, for Balance of Flour for the King's Troops,	39	5	5½
To Ditto paid John Clark, Goaler, for dieting Peter Griselner, a French Spy,	1	18	4
To Ditto paid Joseph Armstrong, for George Hamilton, and other Guides to Capt. Ord, &c.	28	6	0
To Ditto paid Ditto, for his Servant John Coxe's Services on the Ohio Road,	3	16	6
To Ditto paid Benjamin Franklin, for printing Votes of the House,	429	19	0

To Ditto paid Caleb Cowpland, third Judge, his Salary,	60 0 0	
To Ditto paid Isaac Norris, for immediate Services,	35 0 0	
To Ditto paid Edward Kelly, as Doorkeeper,	23 16 0	
To Ditto paid John Ross, of Blue Rock, for maintaining of Conestogoe Indians,	9 19 4	
Carried forward	£ 2,050 17 7½	
Credit brought over	£ 2,840 3 6	
Debit brought forward	£ 2,050 17 7½	
To Ditto paid James Pemberton, for immediate Services,	8 2 0	
To Ditto paid Rachel Lininger, her Husband being killed by the Indians,	5 0 0	
To Ditto paid Patrick Burn, for his Expenses back to Cumberland,	10 0 0	
To Ditto paid George Hutchison, for Ditto,	10 0 0	
To Ditto paid Joseph Hamton, per Order,	0 6 0	
To Ditto paid Henry Keppele, per Order, for Goods as a present to Scarroyady's Son,	5 14 6	
To Ditto paid William Allen, Esq; his Salary, per Order,	200 0 0	
To Ditto paid Mary Jones, per Order,	127 0 0	
To Ditto paid Hannah Boyd, per Order,	22 19 10½	
	£ 2,440 0 0	
To Commissions, at Five per Cent,	122 0 0	
Balance due to the Province,	278 3 6	£ 2,840 3 6

That we have examined the Accounts of Joseph Redman, Collector of Excise for the City and County of Philadelphia, and find,

That he Credits the Province, by Balance due at the last Settlement,	£ 155 17 9	
By the Amount of Excise from June 1, 1755, to June 1, 1756,	1,741 15 8	
By sundry Retailers at Three Pounds per Annum,	219 15 0	£ 2,117 8 5
That he Charges the Province, to Cash paid Samuel Preston Moore,	1,745 9 8	
To his Commissions thereon, at Five per Cent,	87 5 6	
To Balance due to the Province, outstanding,	284 13 3	£ 2,117 8 5

That we have examined the Accounts of John Woolston, Collector for the County of Bucks, and find,

That he Credits the Province with the Balance due at the last Settlement,	£ 2 11 7	
By Amount of Excise,	220 11 4	
By seven Tavern-keepers, at Three Pounds per Annum,	21 0 0	£ 244 2 11
That he Charges the Provinces, to Cash paid Samuel Preston Moore,	£ 200 0 0	
To his Commissions on 200£. at Ten per Cent,	20 0 0	
To Sundries uncollected, allowed by the Committee,	9 16 4	
To balance due to the Province,	14 6 7	£ 244 2 11

That we have examined the Accounts of Jeremiah Starr, Collector for the County of Chester, and find,

That he Credits the Province with the Balance due at the last Settlement,	£ 94 17 2	
By Amount of Excise,	312 6 8	
By thirteen Retailers,	32 6 8	£ 439 10 6

That he Charges the Province, to Cash paid Samuel Preston Moore, ...	£	297 10 9		
To his Commissions on £297 10 9, at Ten per Cent, ...		29 15 0		
To an Allowance on an outstanding Debt,		1 10 0		
To the Balance due to the Province, ...		110 14 9	£	439 10 6

We do further report, of Jeremiah Starr's Account, viz.

The Balance due to the Province, as above,	£	110 14 9		
And Credit the Province with several Entries, and a Fine, omitted last Settlement,		15 9 4		
Balance due to the Province, ...			£	126 4 1

That David M'Connaughy, Collector of the Excise for the County of York, has not exhibited any Account to us, but we find that he has paid the Provincial Treasurer the following Sum, at two Payments this present Year,	£	40 0 0

That Arthur Patterson, Collector of Excise for the County of Lancaster, has not exhibited any Account to us; nor do we find that he settled any Account since the Year 1753, but has paid to the Provincial Treasurer at two Payments in this present Year, ...	£	101 0 9

That James Lindsay, Collector of Excise for the County of Cumberland, has not exhibited any Account to us, but find that he has paid the Provincial Treasurer at two Payments in this present Year, the Sum of	£	30 13 0

That Daniel Craig, Collector of Excise for the County of Northampton, has not exhibited any Account to us, but find that he has paid the Provincial Treasurer at two Payments in this present Year, the Sum of	£	36 3 0

That John Hughes, Collector of the Excise for the County of Berks, has not exhibited any Account to us; nor do we find that he has paid any Money this Year.

That it appears by the Report of the Committee last Year there remained in the Hands of the Trustees, for exchanging of torn and ragged Bills, the Sum of	£	1,702 6 8		
Of which we have burnt the Sum of		1,151 17 6		
Which leaves in the Hands of the trustees, for Exchange of torn and ragged Bills, ...			£	550 9 2

That we have also burnt of the £ 10,000 Act, pursuant to an Act of Assembly, of	£	10,000 0 0		
the Sum of		4,571 16 6		
Which leaves in the Hands of the Trustees, for exchanging of torn and ragged Bills of Credit, the Sum of			£	5,428 3 6

We submit these Accounts, with the others, to the Observation and Correction of the House.

Philadelphia, September 22,

1756.

Joseph Stretch,
Richard Pearne,
Joseph Fox,
Joseph Hamton,
Daniel Roberdeau.*

Then the several Certificates and Orders, for Payment of the Members Wages, the Salaries of Officers, and other Incidental Charges, being signed by the Speaker, by Order of the House, The House adjourned to the Thirtieth of this instant *September.*

Sundry INCIDENTAL CHARGES, allowed at the last Sitting of Assembly.

To the Honourable *William Denny*, Esq; by Order of the Assembly,	£ 600	0	0
To *William Allen*, Esq; Chief Judge of the Supreme Court,	200	0	0
To *Lawrence Growdon*, Esq; second Judge of Ditto,	60	0	0
To *Caleb Cowpland*, Esq; third Judge of Ditto,	60	0	0
To *Richard Peters*, Esq; as Clerk of the Council,	15	0	0
To *Charles Brockden*, his Account as Master of the Rolls,	11	13	11
To the Members of Assembly for their Attendance,	1,319	7	0
To *Benjamin Franklin*, his Account for printing Votes, *&c.*	201	4	3
To *Hannah Boyd*, her Account for *Indian* Expences,	22	19	10
To *Mary Jones*, her Account for the Entertainment,	127	0	0
To *William Franklin*, for Expence paid by him for Ditto,	1	5	0
To Ditto, as Clerk to the House, 133 Days, at *Six Shillings per* Day,	39	18	0
To Ditto, his Account for Transcribing, Ingrossing, *&c.*	173	7	9
To *Samuel Kirke*, his Salary as Serjeant at Arms,	8	0	0
To *Richard Hockley*, his Account for affixing the Great Seal,	9	15	0
To *David Edwards*, for Brushes, cleaning the House, *&c.*	7	16	6
To *William Franklin*, for Postage of public Letters to Governor *Morris*,	20	0	0
To Ditto for Postage of public Letters to Governor *Denny*,	0	18	8
To *Benjamin Franklin*, for establishing a Post between *Winchester* and *Philadelphia*, the Charge being agreed to be paid for by a Resolve of the House; and for Postage of Letters to the Army under General *Braddock*,	210	13	9½

To *David Edwards*, for his Attendance as Door-keeper, 121 Days, at *Four Shillings per* Day, ...	24	4	0
To *Charles Stow*, for summoning Eighty-eight Councils, at *Two Shillings* and *Six-pence* each, ...	11	0	0
To *William Franklin*, his Account for Postage of Public Letters to the Secretary, ...	10	0	0
To the Speaker for immediate Services, ...	40	0	0
To *Joseph Fox*, for 28 Days on the Committee of Accounts at 6*s*.	8	8	0
To *Joseph Stretch*, for 28 Days on Ditto, ...	8	8	0
To *John Hughes*, for 28 Days on Ditto, ...	8	8	0
To *Daniel Roberdeau*, for 28 Days on Ditto, ..	8	8	0
To *Richard Pearne*, for 28 Days on Ditto, ..	8	8	0
To *Joseph Hamton*, for 12 Days on Ditto, ..	3	12	0
To *Richard Partridge* and *Robert Charles*, each *One Hundred Pounds Sterling*, for their Services as Agents, ...	345	0	0
	£3,564	15	8½

An ACCOUNT of the Disposal of the One Thousand Pounds *ordered to be paid into the Hands of* Isaac Norris, Evan Morgan, Joseph Fox, Benjamin Franklin *and* John Wright, *on the 22d of August*, 1755, *for such Purposes for the King's Use as to the Governor and them should seem necessary: Also an Account of the Disposal of the several Things purchased therewith, and into whose Hands delivered, that the Government may demand them again in Time of Peace; laid before the House by* E. Morgan.

Dr. Province of PENNSYLVANIA. *Account of the* One Thousand Pounds *voted by the* ASSEMBLY *for the King's Use*, August 22, 1755.

To Cash paid Porters for hauling Chests of Guns, *&c.*	£	0	8	9
To Ditto paid for Cooperage of Powder Casks,		0	1	10
To Ditto paid *John Smith* for 1000 Oil Flints		1	10	0
To Ditto paid him for Carriage of Fifty Guns to *Carlisle*, ...		1	16	0
August.				
To Ditto paid *Townsend White* for said 50 Guns, ...		76	7	2
To Ditto paid Captain *Kennedy* for six Guns,		8	8	0

	To Ditto paid *William Rush*, Gun-Smith, for mending Guns,	1	2	0
	To Ditto paid *Joseph Morris* for Powder and Lead,	24	10	0
	Carried forward	£ 114	3	9
	Brought forward	£ 114	3	9
	To Ditto paid *James Pemberton* for Twenty-four Muskets,	30	0	0
	To Ditto paid for Carriage of Guns, Powder and Lead, as *per West's* Receipt,	6	1	0
23,	To Ditto paid *Reese Meredith* for Sixteen Guns,	27	1	0
	To Ditto paid Porters for hauling 400 Guns to Store,	0	4	0
	To Ditto paid *Francis Hamilton*, a Road-cutter (in Want)	1	0	0
Sept. 27,	To Ditto paid Porters for Hauling Lead,	0	1	6
Oct. 4,	To Ditto paid for Freight for 400 Guns from *New-York*,	6	0	0
	To Ditto paid Porters for hauling Sundries,	0	6	0
	To Ditto paid *Thomas Clifford* for four new Guns,	5	8	0
8,	To Ditto paid Porters for hauling and weighing Chests of Guns,	0	3	0
	To Ditto paid *Culbertson* for Carriage of a Chest of Guns and Ammunition,	1	6	3
13,	To Ditto paid *John Erwin* for Carriage of a Chest, *&c.* to *Joseph Armstrong's*,	1	6	3
20,	To Porters for hauling,	0	2	0
23,	To Cash paid *John Groves*, for sixteen Quarter Casks of Powder,	40	0	0
28,	To Ditto paid *Andrew Gair* for Carriage of two Swivel Guns, fifty Muskets, a Barrel of Powder, and two Hundred Weight of Lead, to *Harris's* Ferry,	5	0	0
	To Ditto paid *Dutch Williams*, a Porter, for hauling Sundries,	0	7	0
	To Ditto paid *Richard Asheton*, for hauling Powder and Swivels,	0	3	0
Nov. 15,	To Ditto paid *Hillborn* and *Jones* for seven Hundred Weight of Lead,	15	15	0

Dec.				
3,	To Ditto paid *Matthias Bush* for five Hundred Weight of Lead,	11	5	0
15,	To Ditto paid *William Bingham* for two Swivel Guns,	5	0	0
17,	To Ditto paid *John Smith* for *John Elder*, for Carriage of five Chests of Guns to *Carlisle*,	5	5	0
19,	To Ditto paid *Philip Benezet* for three Hundred Weight of Lead,	6	15	0
	To Ditto paid *Jonathan Zane* for one Hundred Weight of Buck Shot,	2	8	0
	To Ditto paid for Storage of Guns and Ammunition,	1	0	0
	To Ditto paid *William Hill* for Storage of Powder,	0	2	0
27,	To Ditto paid Porters for hauling,	0	4	0
	To Ditto paid for more hauling,	0	3	0
	To Ditto paid *John Walter* for Carriage of 100 Guns in four Chests, and Powder and Lead to *Wright's* Ferry, intended for the County of *York*,	3	10	0
	To Account of Guns bought at *New-York*, viz. 400, as *per* Account,	709	19	0
	To Cash remaining in my Hands,	0	1	3
		£1,000	0	0

Province of PENNSYLVANIA, *Cr.*

By Cash received of *Charles Norris*,	£ 290	1	0
By Ditto, received of Ditto, paid *Townsend White* his Bill for the 400 Guns bought at *New-York*,	709	19	0
	£1,000	0	0

The above Account is humbly submitted to the Perusal of the Assembly, by

April 12, 1756. EVAN MORGAN."

An ACCOUNT *of Guns, Powder, Lead, &c. sent into the Back Counties, for the Defence of the Frontiers, bought with the* One Thousand Pounds *given by the* ASSEMBLY *on the Twenty-second of* August, 1755; *laid before the House by* E. Morgan.

Names of Persons to whom delivered.	County to which sent.	Township to which sent.	Numb. of Guns.	Quantity of Powder.	Quantity of Lead.
William Buchanan	*Cumberland*	*Carlisle*	50	2 qr. Casks	2 C. wt. & ½
Justice *Maxwell*	*Cumberland*	*Peters-Town*	50	3 Ditto	2 C. wt. & ½
James Galbraith and *Adam Reid*, Esqrs.	*Lancaster*	*Paxton*	50	2 Ditto	2 C. wt.
John Carson	*Lancaster*	*Paxton*	25	1 Ditto	1 Ditto
John Wright	*York*	*Huntingdon* *Strabane* *Cumberland* *Mun-Allen*	75	3 Ditto	3 Ditto
Captain *Alexander Culbertson*	*Cumberland*	*Lourgan*	25	1 Ditto	1 Ditto
Joseph Armstrong—	*Cumberland*	*Hamilton*	25	1 Ditto	1 Ditto
John Wright—	*York*	*York-Town*	25	1 Ditto	1 Ditto
John Smith— *John Armstrong* *William Buchanan*	*Cumberland*	to be distributed at their Discretion	125	5 Ditto	5 Ditto
Sent to *Penn's* Creek, at the Time of the first Murders there, but stopped at *Harris's* by the People, and divided some to *Hunter's* Fort,			50	4 Ditto	2 Ditto, and 2 Swivel Guns
			500	23	1

An ACCOUNT from the Trustees *of the* General Loan-Office, *of the Money paid by them to sundry Persons, upon the Orders of the* Commissioners *appointed to dispose of the* Sixty Thousand Pounds *granted to the King's Use, by the Act of* General Assembly, *entituled*, "An Act for granting the Sum of *Sixty Thousand Pounds* for the "King's Use, and for striking *Fifty-five Thousand Pounds* thereof in Bills of Credit, and to provide a Fund to sink the same, *viz.*"

January				
14.	To Evan Morgan, Esq; to purchase Arms, ammunition, &c.	£ 5,000	0	0
February				
3.	To John Hughes, Esq; towards discharging sundry Accounts for Arms, Provisions, Pay, &c.	5,000	0	0
9.	To Joseph Fox, Esq; towards maintaining French Neutrals,	1,000	0	0
18.	To Benjamin Franklin, Esq; for Bills of Exchange, towards purchasing Cannon, &c. in England,	3,500	0	0
21.	To John Smith, for William Buchanan, to purchase Provisions for the Forces,	400	0	0
	To Capt. Edward Crostyn, advanced to buy Provisions for the Forces,	50	0	0
23.	To Samuel M’Call, senior, in Part for Guns and Ammunition,	400	0	0
25.	To Capt. George Croghan, his Balance for the Pay of four Companies,	77	7	0
26.	To Capt. Thomas M‘Kee, in Part of his Account for Indian and other Expences,	30	0	0
	To Adam Deshler, for Provisions furnished Capt. Wetterhold's Company,	59	18	11½
	To Capt. John Trump, for himself and his Company's Pay,	228	17	2
27.	To Lieut. Patrick Davis, for Pay of himself, and a Detachment of Capt. M‘Laughlin's Company,	74	14	11
28.	To Capt. James Martin, for himself and Company's Pay,	244	19	6
March				
1.	To William Jones, for Cattle bought by Capt. Crostyn, for Northampton County Forces,	129	0	0

2.	To Capt. George Aston, for himself and Company's Pay, ...	240	15	4
3.	To John Atkins, for Service of his Team, &c. at Fort Hamilton, ...	11	3	0
	To Conrad Weiser, for Capt. Christian Busse, and Company's Pay, ...	178	11	0
	To Townsend White, for Guns, Powder and Lead, for Back Inhabitants, ...	173	19	6
5.	To Benjamin Franklin, Esq; for Bills of Exchange, sent to England, for Cannon, &c.	1,487	10	0
10.	To Capt. James Galbreath and Barnabas Hughes, for Provisions for Ninety Men in the Province Pay, and for Tallow, ..	202	8	0
	To Benjamin Franklin, Esq; Balance of his Account for sundry Disbursements for the Province, ...	198	16	11
11.	To James Coultas, Esq; towards finishing the Repairs of the Battery, ...	200	0	0
	To Messieurs Rush and Hall, in Part for Guns made by them, ...	100	0	0
	To Joseph Turner, Esq; for Arms, and building a Fort at Shippensburg, ...	671	0	7½
12.	To Benjamin Kendall, for Guns, ...	44	2	6
13.	To William West, for Provisions furnished by Adam Hoops to sundry Garrisons, ..	400	0	0
	To Richard Peters, Esq; a Present to Indians, ...	81	16	11
15.	To Lieut. James Hyndshaw, for Pay of Capt. Van Etten's Company, ...	127	12	0
	To Capt. William Craig, for himself and Company's Pay, ...	256	13	3
	To George Reynolds, for himself and Company's Pay, ...	75	15	0
	To Capt. Henry Waggoner, for himself and Company's Pay, ...	134	5	0
	To Capt. George Croghan, in full for Necessaries and Diet furnished the Forces, ...	213	11	10
16.	To David Sisholtz, for a Blockhouse removed to Fort Norris, ...	15	0	0
16.	To Evan Morgan, Esq; Expences for quartering Regulars from New-York, ...	89	3	0
	To John Philips, for Swivel Guns, and Shot, ...	25	18	0

18.	To Frederick Weiser, in full for Capt. Busse's Company's Pay, ...	134	17	0
	To Ditto, for Conrad Weiser, for victualling Capt. Busse's Company, ...	33	6	0
19.	To Jonas Seely, for victualling the Detachment of Regulars from New-York; also for Ditto Capt. Morgan's Company, ...	146	9	11
20.	To Capt. Isaac Wayne, for himself and Company's Pay, ...	190	2	3
22.	To Ensign Everhart Martin, for two Months Pay of Capt. Smith's Company,	279	0	0
	To Philip Sierfass, for Sundries furnished at Fort Norris, and Fort Allen, ...	23	16	9½
	To Rev. Mr. John Steel, Advance Money for Capt. John Potter's Company, ...	50	0	0
	To Capt. Charles Foulke, for himself and Company's Pay, ...	475	1	11½
24.	To Andrew Lycan, for two Scalps, ...	30	0	0
	To Joseph Pugh, for Maintenance of Twenty-two Indians from Harris's	24	19	0
	To John Harris, for Maintenance of Indians, ...	52	10	4
	To William M'Clure, bringing Indians Luggage, ...	7	10	0
	To Col. William Clapham, Advance Money, to be hereafter accounted for, ...	100	0	0
27.	To John Moore, for going to Blue Rock with Indians Luggage, ...	12	0	0
	To John Inglis, to be laid out for Stores for the Battery, ...	60	0	0
	To William Buchanan, towards Expences of fortifying Carlisle, ...	100	0	0
	To Ditto, Balance of Account, for furnishing Provisions to sundry Garrisons, ...	101	12	2½
	To Ditto, Advance towards the Purchase of Provisions for Fort Granville, and Pomfret Castle, ...	100	0	0
30.	To Myers and Levy, for Blankets, ...	34	0	0
	To Charles Broadhead, for Sundries furnished Captains Aston and Trump, ...	19	8	4
	To Elisha Salter, Paymaster, to be paid by him to the Province Forces, ...	1700	0	0
April				
1.	To Peter Weidner, Express, ...	4	0	0

2.	To Jeremiah Warder, for Sundries, as per Account, ...	409	13	3
3.	To John Craig, for his Trouble and Expences in coming down to give Information, ...	15	0	0
6.	To William Parsons, for Maintenance of Guard at Easton, &c.	39	19	11
	To Edward Crostyn, in full for Provisions for Forces in Northampton County, ...	81	11	11½
	To Ditto, Advance, towards purchasing Provisions for Ditto, ...	50	0	0
7.	To Jeremiah Trexler, in full for Pay, Provisions and Work, ...	384	0	0
	To Frederick Smith, in full for his Company's Maintenance, &c.	186	11	8
8.	To William Brown, for Flour to French Neutrals, ...	28	6	1
9.	To Col. William Clapham, advanced for paying and equipping Forces under his Command, ...	200	0	0
	To Joseph M'Makin, for Relief of his Distresses by Indians, ...	7	10	0
	To William Griffitts, and Thomas Say, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	300	0	0
	To James Pollock, in full for his Expences in riding Express, ...	7	0	0
10.	To James Burd, for Sundries, Pay, Advance-Money, &c.	137	10	0
	To Col. William Clapham, towards Pay, &c. to be accounted for, ...	200	0	0
12.	To Edward Crostyn, towards purchasing Provisions, ...	80	0	0
	To Conrad Weiser, for victualing Busse's Company, ...	58	6	0
	To Ditto, for Capt. Busse and Company's Pay, ...	139	10	0
	To George Gabriel, &c. for their Distresses by the Indians, ...	10	0	0
13.	To Evan Morgan, Esq; the Balance of his Account, for sundry Disbursements, ...	81	17	2¾
	To John Leydeg, for Attendance, and Medicines for several Persons wounded by Indians, ...	10	0	0
	To William Fisher, in full for striped Duffils, ...	17	0	0

15.	To John Young, for Carrying-Saddles,	8	0	0
	To John Snowden, for Ditto,	20	0	0
16.	To Patrick Reynolds, for 321 Pine Logs,	120	7	6
	To Col. William Clapham, towards Pay and Subsistence,	200	0	0
	To William Edmonds, for Jacob Ehrenhart, for Provisions for Forts Allen, and Norris, &c.	36	6	8
	To Ditto, for the Brethren's Account, for Maintenance of Refugee Inhabitants, and Indians,	171	8	0¾
	To Francis Parvin, for Provisions for Families driven from their Settlements,	19	1	1
	To Nathaniel Pennock, &c. for French Neutrals,	150	0	0
	To Griffith Owen, &c. for Ditto,	60	0	0
	To John Van Etten, for his and Company's Pay and Subsistence,	124	0	7
17.	To Joseph Fox, Esq; for Michael Teaff's Account for Provisions for a Guard against Indians,	20	17	0
	To Thomas Apty, for Riding Express,	4	0	0
	To Michael Ege, for dieting Soldiers from New-York, sent by General Shirley,	3	8	0
	To James Wright, for John Bailey's Account for Entertainment of sundry Militia, which marched to John Harris's, in November last,	3	19	7
	To Ditto, for Barnabas Hughes, for Ditto,	20	9	7
	To Ditto, for Samuel Scott, for Ditto,	35	13	5
20.	To Andrew Montour, for his Journey to Onondago,	56	5	0
	To Scarroyady, for Ditto,	37	10	0
	To Jacob Orndt, in full of his Account, for Pay of his Company, &c.	329	10	2
	To Charles Stow, for Carrying-Saddles,	12	0	0
	To Col. William Clapham, towards Pay and Subsistence,	100	0	0
	To Jonathan Cainquillikoa, for Wampum and Services,	22	0	0
	To William Rush, for 150 Muskets,	344	10	0
	To John Correy, for Horse-hire,	14	4	6
	To John Thorn, for his Distresses by the Indians,	10	0	0

	To Widow Hinshelman, for boarding Indian Boys,	23	14	10½
22.	To Peter Trexler, for Provisions for Capt. Jeremiah Trexler's Company,	93	2	0
	To Hugh Roberts, in full of his Account, for Tools, &c. for the Provincial Forces,	265	13	9
23.	To George Lynderman, for a Scalp, and Cure of a Wound from the Indians,	18	15	0
	To Adam Hoops, in full of his account, for provisions for provincial forces,	570	6	9
	To Isaac Norris, Esq; which he paid John Harris, for Expences of Militia in November last,	15	0	0
24.	To Hezekiah Williams, for 50 Barrels of Pork,	175	0	0
	To Hannah Boyd, in full of her Account for Indians Maintenance,	61	6	3
	To Daniel Claus, for Indian Expences,	61	10	4
26.	To Samuel Depuy, for Maintenance of Provincial Soldiers,	15	15	0
	To Conrad Weiser, for Indian Expences,	218	18	3
	To Jacob Stadler, &c. in full of their Accounts for 400 Shot Pouches,	65	0	0
	To Samuel Neave, for William Buchanan's Order on Commissioners, for supplying Provisions,	50	0	0
	To William West, for Ditto,	50	0	0
	To Samuel M'Call, senior, for Arms and Ammunition,	200	0	0
	To George Honey, for Indians Maintenance,	18	13	5
	To James Wright, &c. for Goods for Ditto, &c.	20	8	7
27.	To Colonel William Clapham, the Balance of his Account, for Pay, &c.	275	12	3
	To James Hamilton, Esq; for Money by him advanced,	9	14	0
	To Ditto, for Ditto,	1,954	12	0
28.	To John Mears, in full for his Service as Commissary,	10	4	0
	To John Spoor and Jacob Nisely, in full of their Account, for carrying Provisions and Stores,	25	5	0
	To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris,			

	Esq; towards bearing his Expences to Harris's, and for purchasing Wheat, &c.	2,000	0	0
	To James Read, in full of his Account for Expresses, and Sundries furnished the Regulars, at Reading,	12	15	6
29.	To James Coultas, towards repairing the Battery,	200	0	0
	To Frederick Smith, in full for his and Company's Pay,	139	10	0
	To Samuel Abbot, for Twenty-five Barrels and Half of Beef, per John Mifflin, ...	63	19	4
	To William West, for Expences paid by Mercer in Recruiting his Company, ...	30	0	0
	To John Nicholas Wetterhold, for his and Company's Pay,	332	3	0
May				
1.	To Col. William Clapham, for Balance of Account now settled, for Pay, &c.	160	1	5
3.	To Benjamin Franklin, for Cash advanced for the Province,	97	5	7
4.	To Charles Gandowin, for 26 Barrels of Pork, and 24 Barrels of Beef,	151	0	0
5.	To Christian Busse, for Sundries, for building Fort Henry, and other Expences,	152	0	9
7.	To John Inglis, for Sundries for the Battery,	135	6	0
8.	To John Malcolm, in full of his Account for 50 Tents,	64	9	5
	To John Blakely for 161 Barrels of Beef,	402	10	0
	To Levy Trump, in full for Pay and Subsistence of himself and Detachment, ...	99	17	0
	To Jonas Seely, for dieting Soldiers, ...	16	17	0
	To Ditto, for furnishing Provisions for the Provincial Forces,	210	18	3½
	To David Edwards, for Provisions for Indians,	127	2	5
11.	To John Carson, for Sundries furnished the People at Hunter's Mill,	4,	6	0
12.	To William Pywell, for 15 Barrels of Pork for Provincial Forces,	50	12	6
	To Edward Crostyn, for Provisions, ...	160	0	0
	To Joseph Laycock, for present Relief, his House being burnt by Indians,	5	0	0
	To Susanna Cavet, for Ditto,	5	0	0

	To Samuel M'Call, senior, Balance of his Account, for Arms, &c.	95	5	0
	To William Clinton, for Horse Shoes, &c.	4	10	0
13.	To Joseph Fox, Esq; to pay Waggoners, &c.	300	0	0
	To Urban Friebele, for Medicines, &c. for wounded Men at Allemingle, ...	12	0	0
	To William Rush and John Hall, for Guns,	50	0	0
	To John Smith, for William Buchanan's Order, in his Favour, ...	543	0	0
14.	To Caleb Evans, for Horse Shoes, &c.	4	8	4
	To Joseph Richardson, for 14 Half Barrels of Powder, ...	66	10	0
	To William Edmonds, for sundry Accounts to be paid John Hayes, &c.	27	17	2
	To Mary Haselton, for 9 Blunderbusses,	11	5	0
	To Joseph Morris, for David Magaw's Order, for sundry Balances due to him from Ohio Road-Cutters, ...	16	4	10
15.	To Conrad Weiser, for victualling Capt. Busse's Company, &c.	57	6	0
	To Samuel Weiser, for Christian Busse, for Pay of himself and Soldiers, ...	143	5	0
17.	To George Bryan, for 757 Shirts for Provincial Soldiers, ...	391	14	4
	To Patrick Reynolds, for 179 Logs, ...	67	2	6
18.	To John Hughes, Esq; Balance of his Account for sundry Stores, &c. purchased for the Province, ...	165	16	2
19.	To James Pearson, for Ensign William Johnson, in full for Pay of a Detachment of Capt. Inslee's Company, and others under his Command, at Reading,	139	11	0
	To Barnaby Hughes, for dieting Capt. Shippen's Men, &c.	6	9	8
	To Ditto, for Balance due to James Galbreath, for 1,500 Bushels of Wheat, purchased for Province Troops going to Shamokin, ...	37	10	0
	To Ditto, for Frederick Smith, and Company's Pay, ...	143	5	0
	To Ditto, for his Account for Provisions furnished 90 Men at Hunter's Mill, &c.	198	0	0
	To John Ord, for 448 Soldiers Coats, and 17 Serjeants Coats, ...	1,138	11	6

	To Ennis and Apty, for sundry Indian Expences, ...	15	8	6
	To James Sharpe, and others, to be divided among 31 of Capt. Culbertson's Militia Company, for re-taking sundry Persons from the Indians in the late Engagement near Sideling-Hill, and William M'Cord, whose House was burnt, ..	174	0	0
20.	To Dr. John Redman, for Medicines and Instruments furnished John Morgan, Surgeon to Col. Clapham's Regiment, ...	40	15	11
	To Thomas M'Kee for his and Company's Pay, and Sundries, as per Account, ...	257	5	6
22.	To Charles Folke, for his and Company's Pay, ...	277	11	9
24.	To Henry Keppele, for 42 Barrels of Beef, and two Waggon Screws, ...	109	0	0
	To Samuel Powell, for 200 £ of Swan Shot, for the Use of the Brethren at Bethlehem, ...	5	0	0
25.	To John Imley, for 76 Barrels of Pork, and one Barrel of Beef, ...	277	17	0
27.	To Daniel Harry, in Part Pay of Capt. Morgan's Company, ...	150	0	0
28.	To Adam Deshler, for Provisions furnished Capt. Wetterhold's Company, ...	47	15	2
	To John Nicholas Wetterhold, for Pay for himself and Company; and Allowance for 36 Guns found by his Men, ...	166	5	6
29.	To William West, in full of Adam Hoop's Order on the Commissioners in his Favour, ...	500	0	0
	To Ditto, for William Buchanan's Order in his Favour, ...	65	0	0
June				
1.	To George Croghan, for sundry Accounts, building Fort Shirley, &c.	200	0	0
	To William Henderson, for 107 Pair of Leather Breeches, with a Chest to pack them, ...	128	13	0
2.	To Alexander Derodoban, for Physick and Attendance to French Neutrals, ...	15	0	0
	To Preserve Brown, for 40 Barrels of Pork, ...	145	0	0

	To John Welch, in full for Pay of 20 Men at Fort Granville, ...	114	6	6
	To Conrad Weiser, to be paid sundry Indians, going on Messages, &c.	46	17	6
	To Richard Peters, Esq; in full of his Account for Indian Expences, ...	73	13	0
4.	To John Smith, for William Buchanan's Order in his Favour, ...	159	0	0
	To Alexander Huston, for 14 Barrels of Pork, ...	50	15	0
5.	To William Morton, for Freight of Arms and Ammunition from Boston, &c.	35	0	0
	To Michael Newbold, for 31 Barrels of Pork, ...	112	7	6
6.	To Jacob Morgan, for his and Company's Pay, building Blockhouses at North-kill,	340	18	9
8.	To Joseph Turner, for 22 Casks of Pease,	33	4	11
9.	To John Correy, for 214 Pair of Leather Breeches, ...	256	8	0
10.	To Samuel Mifflin, for Cash advanced to 11 Men for his Majesty's Navy, and for their Passage to Halifax, ...	79	15	0
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; Balance of his Account of Disbursements, ...	3	3	6¾
12.	To Preserve Brown, for 20 Barrels of Pork,	72	10	0
12.	To Samuel Neave, for Goods for Indians,	66	12	9
	To Christian Busse, for Pay of his Company to the 7th Instant, ...	143	5	0
16.	To Capt. Charles Foulke, in full for Pay of himself, and Company, ...	189	11	0
	To Christian Sprigel, for Medicines, &c. for wounded Men over the Mountains, ..	12	0	0
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; to discharge sundry Accounts, ...	100	0	0
	To Benjamin Franklin, Esq; for Cash paid for Guns, Blankets, &c.	287	6	10½
	To Wharton and Story, in full for Sundries, ...	42	8	1
18.	To Jonas Seely, in full for Pay for Town Guard at Reading, ...	34	16	0
	To Peter Bard, in full for Pay, &c.	30	9	6
	To Leonard Melchior, for two Rifle Guns,	6	0	0
	To Edward Crostyn, advanced for Cattle,	400	0	0

21.	To Samuel Depuy, in full of his Account for purchasing Provisions for a Detachment of Capt. Wetterhold's Company,	33	1	8
	To Capt. Jacob Orndt, in full for Pay, &c.	305	15	11
23.	To Daniel Cressop, for two Scalps,	97	10	0
24.	To William West, for Dr. Prentice's Account for Medicines, &c.	20	0	0
25.	To Jeremiah Warder, in full of his Account for sundry Goods,	248	6	6
	To John Ross, of Blue Rock, for maintaining Indians, &c.	20	14	10
28.	To Capt. Joseph Inslee, in full for Pay of himself, and Company,	238	0	1
	To Frederick Smith, in full for Pay, and building a Fort at Swatara Gap,	165	6	6
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; to discharge sundry small Accounts,	200	0	0
July				
1.	To Jacob Mess, in full of Capt. Charles Foulke's Account for Pay and Subsistence,	40	1	4
	To William Edmonds, for sundry Indian Expences, &c.	51	3	11
2.	To James Galbreath, Balance of his Account for Flour,	71	8	4
	To William Buchanan, Balance of his Account for Provisions,	398	9	9
3.	To Robert Scull, for riding Express,	15	0	0
	To William Peters, as Military Secretary, &c.	50	0	0
	To John Hughes, Esq; his Advance to Conrad Weiser, for Pay, &c.	80	0	0
5.	To Jonathan Evans, in full for branding Pork, &c.	8	12	0
6.	To Richard Peters, Esq; for Indian Expences,	16	1	2
	To Edward Shippen, for Sundries for the Provincial Forces, &c.	22	15	5
	To Adam Hoops, in full for Provisions to sundry Forts, &c.	703	8	0
	To Hannah Boyd, for boarding Indian Children,	23	5	2
	To John Hughes, Esq; in full for Sundries for Province Service,	104	16	4

	To James Young, Esq; Paymaster, to pay Forces under Col. Clapham, ...	1,500	0	0
	To Ditto, in Part Pay, ...	50	0	0
	To John Bleakly, in full for Provisions for French Neutrals, ...	118	0	3
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; to discharge sundry small Accounts, ...	250	0	0
7.	To James Coultas, for repairing the Battery, ...	181	13	9
10.	To William Skeels, for 165 Barrels of Pork, per Account, ...	598	2	6
13,	To Rush and Hall, Balance of Account for Guns, ...	361	4	3
14.	To Benjamin Loxley, for Boards for Guard-house, near the Powder-house, ..	12	12	2¼
16.	To John Armstrong, in full for his Account for Recruiting, ...	18	16	6
26.	To Michael Newbold, for Pork, &c. 29 Barrels, ...	105	2	6
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; to send to Commissary Young, ...	2,000	0	0
		£54,982	7	9
	Balance remaining in the Trustees Hands, due to the Province, ...	17	12	3
		£55,000	0	0

An ACCOUNT of the Money paid by the TRUSTEES *of the* General Loan-Office, *upon the Orders of the* COMMISSIONERS *appointed to dispose of the* Thirty Thousand Pounds *granted to the King's Use, by the Act of* GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *entituled*, "An Act for striking the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, and giving the same to the King's Use; and for providing a Fund to sink the Bills so to be emitted, by laying an Excise upon Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits," viz.

1756. *October*		Account of the £30,000 granted to the King's Use		
12.	To Thomas Apty, to be delivered Commissary Young, for Pay of the Forces, ...	£5,000	0	0
16.	To Conrad Weiser, for victualing Capt. Busse's Company, ...	233	4	0
	To Ditto, for Indian Expences, ...	36	8	3

20.	To Benjamin Franklin, Esq; for Money advanced by him for sundry Purposes,	801	3	5
22.	To Joseph Fox, Esq; in Discharge of sundry Accounts for public Services, ...	100	0	0
	To James Ennis, for Government Expresses, ...	60	9	0
	To Thomas Apty, for Ditto, ...	26	1	5
	To Samuel Mifflin, for Bounty-Money to Seamen of his Majesty's Navy, and for their Passage to Halifax, &c.	242	15	6
23.	To Barnaby Hughes, in full of his Account for Provisions, &c.	259	8	2
25.	To John Welsh, for Commissary Young's Order in his Favour, ...	60	0	0
	To John Hughes, for Sundries advanced for Provisions, &c.	114	15	6
	To Adam Hoops, for Provisions, &c. furnished the Province Forces, ...	1,152	0	7½
	To William Buchanan, for Ditto, ...	428	6	6¾
	To Capt. Hugh Mercer, for Pay, ...	46	0	0
26.	To Joseph Fox, Esq; for Payment of sundry public Accounts, ...	100	0	0
27.	To Wharton and Story, for Sundries for the public Service, ...	53	8	5
	To William Griffitts, for Cloathing for the Provincial Forces, ...	411	4	3
	To Capt. Joseph Inslee, in full of his Account for Pay, &c.	189	6	2
	To Andrew Meacomorn, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	14	7	0
	To John Armstrong, on Account of his Pay as Lieutenant-Colonel, ...	40	0	0
	To Samuel Neave, for Goods furnished for the Treaty at Easton, ...	63	7	0
28.	To Conrad Weiser, for Maintenance of his Company at Reading, &c.	153	1	6
29.	To Col. John Armstrong, for Sundries on the Expedition to Kittanning, ...	349	13	0
	To Adam Deshler, for Provisions for Province Forces, ...	259	18	7
	To Doctor Thomas Graeme, for Medicines for Indians, ...	33	13	6
30.	To Col. John Armstrong, for sundry Prisoners and Scalps brought from Kittanning, ...	271	17	6

November

1.	To Peter Bard, for his Salary as Commissary General of the Stores, &c.	46	10	0
2.	To Daniel Harry, for Jonas Seely's Account for Victualing Capt. Morgan's Company, ...	378	19	0
	To Richard Peters, for Indian and other Expences, &c.	238	9	7
4.	To Sebastian Levan, for his Father's Account for supplying Capt. Inslee's Company with Provisions, ...	227	14	0
	To Capt. John Vanetten, Balance of his Account for Pay to himself and Company, ...	477	4	0
	To Ditto, for Subsistence of his Company,	83	9	2
5.	To Isaac Norris, for Governor's Expences to Easton, and towards making a Present to the Indians, ...	500	0	0
6.	To David Edwards, for his Attendance on the Commissioners, in Part, ...	10	0	0
8.	To Edward Crostyn, for Provisions for the Province Forces, ...	1,500	0	0
9.	To Mary Moore, in full for her Husband's Account for Waggonage, ...	19	0	0
13.	To Allen and Turner, for Arms and Accoutrements, &c.	1,074	12	0
23.	To Capt. Frederick Smith, for Pay due to his Company, ...	150	0	0
24.	To Christopher Sower, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	20	7	4
	To Abraham Kintsey, for Waggon-hire, ..	75	0	0
	To Francis Smedley, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	12	4	6¼
	To Thomas Thizrim, for Ditto, ...	3	4	11
	To Jesse Maris, for Ditto, ...	11	12	6½
	To Jacob Cantzon, for Medicines and Attendance for Province Soldiers, ...	9	1	0
	To Stephen Carpenter, for Indian Expences, ...	17	9	0
25.	To Samuel Neave, for Goods for Indian Treaty at Easton, ...	401	6	11½
26.	To James Hamilton, Esq; for Cash advanced to Edward Crostyn for Provisions, ...	150	0	0

	To John Hughes, Esq; for Capt. Vanetten's Order,	150	0	0
	To William Edmonds, for Indian Maintenance at Bethlehem, £175 4 2	341	3	7½
	To Ditto, for Ditto, 144 15 5¼			
	To Ditto, for T. Horsefield, Esq; for Ditto, 21 4 0			
	To Christian Busse, in Part of his and Company's Pay,	400	0	0
29.	To William Branson, for Grenadoes, Shot, and Bullets,	48	0	3
	To Samuel Neave, for Commissary Young's Order, in Favour of John Harris of Paxton,	20	0	0
	To Edward Ward, in Part of Pay for his Company,	100	0	0
	To Conrad Weiser, in Part, for Pay of himself and Company, at Reading,	400	0	0
	To John Pumpshire, for his Service as Indian Interpreter, &c.	20	0	0
	To Jacob Levan, for Provisions furnished Capt. Reynold's Company,	203	8	9
30.	To Thomas Wharton, for two Casks of Nails for Fort Augusta,	13	8	0
	To George Reynolds, for Pay of himself and Company,	722	7	0
December				
1.	To William Chancellor, for Medicines for Forces at Carlisle,	4	9	0
	To Jacob Orndt, for Pay for himself and Company,	801	1	6
3.	To William Moore, for Carriage of Sundries for Col. Clapham's Regiment,	7	0	0
	To William Galbreath, for Pay as Commissary of Stores, &c.	98	16	5
	To Samuel Smith, and others, Executors of Capt. William Grant, for Sundries furnished for Province Service,	10	19	11
	To William Johnston, for Pay of himself and sundry Soldiers,	472	14	0
4.	To Matthew Rea, for Maintenance of French Neutrals,	12	1	5½

6.	To William Henry, for Work done by him and others at Harris's Ferry and Shamokin, ...	43	17	6
	To Thomas McKee, for Indian Expences, &c.	61	8	6
	To Capt. Elisha Salter, in Part of his and Company's Pay, ...	100	0	0
7.	To Lynford Lardner, to discharge sundry small Accounts against the Province, ..	100	0	0
	To Frederick Smith, for Pay of himself and Company, ...	569	17	6
9.	To Robert Owen, in Part for keeping the Commissioners Books, ...	20	0	0
	To Anthony Benezet, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	27	19	9
	To William Clinton, for Spades and Shovels, ...	3	4	0
10.	To Doughty Jones, for Indian Expences,	8	1	6
11.	To John Abraham Denormandie, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	100	0	0
	To John Baldwin, for 50 Pair of Shoes for Province Forces, ...	18	15	0
	To Nathaniel Grubb, for Maintenance of French Neutrals, ...	5	14	2½
13.	To Moses Tatamy, for Indian Expences,	10	0	0
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; for sundry Disbursements for public Service, ...£234 2 11½ To Ditto, for Ditto, and Journey to Easton, and other public Services, ... 112 9 2	346	12	1½
14.	To Philip Syng, for sundry Accounts exhibited for making a Guard-house for the King's Troops, ...	95	11	3
15.	To Jeremiah Warder, in full of his Account, and for S. Depuy's Order for victualing Capt. Wetterhold's Company, &c.	188	1	8
16.	To Robert Armstrong, for Timber and Boards, &c. delivered by Col. Clapham's Order, ...	25	6	6½
	To James Patterson, towards Pay of his Company of Rangers, ...	20	0	0

	To John Leidig, for curing sundry Persons scalped and wounded by the Indians,	17	8	0
	To the Reverend Charles Beatty, for his Pay as Chaplain to Col. Clapham's Regiment,	37	0	0
17.	To Capt. Thomas Lloyd, for sundry Draughts of Commissary Young in his and M. Teaff's Favour,	250	0	0
	To Capt. John Vanetten, for Pay and Subsistence of his Company,	308	2	6
	To Richard Peters, Esq; for Expresses, and the Governor and Mr. Logan's Expences at Easton, not paid by Mr. Fox,	12	5	0
18.	To John Baker, and Abraham Waine, for Work done for the Province at Shamokin,	47	2	6
	To Joseph Fox, Esq; for Payment of sundry small Accounts,	100	0	0
21.	To Edward Croyston, for victualing Forces at Shamokin,	200	0	0
	To Hughes and Jones, for Sundries furnished Province Forces,	240	6	9
23.	To Samuel Hunter, for Sundries for Forces at Shamokin,	28	13	6½
24.	To Charles Coyle, for a Mare lost in Kittanning Expedition,	9	0	0
	To Nathaniel Miles, for Diet, &c. for Province Soldiers,	7	0	6
	To Charles Osborne, for Medicines for Col. Armstrong's Battalion,	19	14	7½
27.	To Michael M'Guire, for Carpenters Work at Shamokin,	17	14	6
28.	To Charles Norris, for what he advanced per Order, viz. £1000 0 0 for the Governor's Journey on the Frontiers, and £420 19 5¾ advanced for Maintenance of French Neutrals, per Order,	1,420	19	5¾
	To Hannah Boyd, for Maintenance of Indians,	25	8	0
	To David Edwards, for Ditto,	134	14	9½
31.	To Conrad Weiser, for his and Capt. Busse's Company's Pay, and sundry Accounts,	457	17	3

	To Henry Keppele, for Hambright's Account for raising and Maintenance of sundry Provincial Soldiers, ...	40	1	0
	To James Young, Commissary and Paymaster, for the Forces, ...	1,900	0	0
1757				
January				
1.	To Thomas James, for Indian Services, ..	2	15	2
4.	To William Buchanan, for Provisions furnished Provincial Soldiers, ...	1,500	0	0
	To Benjamin Franklin, Esq; for Bills of Exchange to be remitted to London, for Arms, Ammunition, &c.	1,365	11	2¼
	To George Noarth, for his Disbursements for the Use of the Artillery Company of the City of Philadelphia, ...	39	6	5
	To John Hughes, Esq; in Part of Sundries furnished the King's Troops in this City, ...	342	6	0
		£30,000	0	0

APPENDIX to the VOTES of ASSEMBLY, *from* October 1755, *to* October 1756.

An Extract of a Letter from ROBERT CHARLES, *Esq; one of the Agents of this Province at the Court of* Great-Britain; *dated,* Golden-Square, February 16, 1756.

The Earl of *Loudon*, a Nobleman of amiable Qualifications, and of great Character as an Officer, is appointed to command in Chief in *America:* I hope, under his Lordship's Direction, Matters will be put on a proper Footing for the Security of the Colonies; and your Province cannot do any thing more acceptable here, or pursue a wiser Measure for its own Interest, than by strengthening his Lordship's Hands in carrying on the Service of the Crown.

The Parliament have likewise voted a Sum for raising an *American* Regiment of 4000 Men; and as it is proposed to get foreign Protestants from the great Numbers of *Germans* who are amongst you, to enlist and mix in this Corps, a Proposal has been made for the Employment of some foreign Officers; two Schemes on this Subject have been communicated to the Agents for *North-America*, whereof, and of my Observations thereon, I herewith send Copies. The Ministry are determined to carry this Measure into Execution, and for this End a Bill is now before Parliament, to enable his Majesty to grant Commissions to the foreign Officers who shall be employed in this Regiment; to which, considering the present Situation of Affairs in *America*, and the exposed State of your Colony, and some of the Southern Ones, I did not think it prudent to give any farther Opposition.

A Copy *of the first SCHEME for employing foreign Officers, &c. viz.*

It is supposed that there are not less than One Hundred Thousand Foreigners in the Colonies in *North-America*, few or none of whom are in Arms.

It is very difficult to raise Men in *America* for the Regiments there, or indeed to prevail on any *Americans* to inlist in any but the Provincial Corps.

It has been thought, that the foreign Protestants of *America* would more willingly inlist in a separate Corps, composed chiefly of themselves.

To raise and discipline such a Corps, it is imagined that some foreign Officers must be sent from *Europe*, our Officers not being well acquainted with the Method of traineing *Swiss* or *German* Soldiers, and being totally unacquainted with the *German* Tongue. The late Settlers are represented to be entirely ignorant of the *English* Language.

A Regiment composed of these foreign Protestants, it is presumed, would be so many Soldiers gained to the Public; they might be employed any where in *America*, and be particularly useful in Garrison.

The Fidelity of the Officers sent over might be depended upon, as *Swiss* or *German* Officers were seldom if ever known to betray their Trust.

This Regiment to be restrained from serving in *Great-Britain*, and (if thought fit) confined entirely to Service in *America*. The Officers not allowed to serve in *English* Corps.

After the first Beginning no Foreigners to be admitted, even at first not more than a certain Proportion of Officers to be sent from *Europe*, the other Commissions to be given to *Americans*, and all Vacancies in this Corps filled by his Majesty's Subjects.

Any other proper Restrictions or Regulations might be added."

The Agent's *OBSERVATIONS on the foregoing Scheme*, viz.

Upon the Communication made by the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount *Barrington*, his Majesty's Secretary at War, to the Agents of the Northern Colonies of *America*, of a proposed Scheme of raising a Body of Sixteen Hundred foreign Protestants in these Colonies, and of placing foreign Officers in Command over them; the under-written Agent for the Colony of *New York*, and joint Agent with Mr. *Patridge* for *Pennsylvania*, thanking his Lordships for the Honour of this Communication, humbly takes Leave to observe:

That whatever the Number of foreign Protestants may now be in *America*, their Settlement there was permitted in Confidence that they would, in Time, learn the Language, Laws and Constitution of *Great-Britain* and her Colonies, and in all Respects become truly *British* Subjects.

That if it be Fact, that these Foreigners "would more willingly inlist in a separate Corps composed chiefly of themselves," that Inclination is repugnant to the Views wherewith they have been admitted into the *British* Colonies; and therefore, with all Submission, not so proper to be countenanced.

That the Raising of a Corps of Sixteen Hundred Foreigners, unmixed with any of his Majesty's *British* Subjects, and putting it under the Command of foreign Officers, to be sent for from *Swisserland* or *Germany*, who, by the Laws now in being, cannot legally exercise such Command, is a new and extraordinary Measure, which may create Jealousy and Disgust in the King's natural-born Subjects, and may even be attended with some Degree of Danger to the *British* Interest in *America.*

If it is the Intention of the Crown to avail itself of the Numbers of foreign Protestants in *America,* it is apprehended that they may be inlisted and mixed with his Majesty's *British* Subjects; and for this End some subaltern Commissions might be given amongst the naturalized Foreigners in *America,* who, from their Influence and Acquaintance, may be thought best able to procure the Inlistment of their Countrymen, but it is humbly conceived, that the chief Command and the chief Commissions should be given to the King's natural-born Subjects, who, it is hoped, do not fall short of any foreign Officers whatever in Point of Fidelity; and must surpass them in natural Affection, and real Concern for the Security and Welfare of *Great-Britain* and her Colonies.

Golden-Square, Jan. 1, 1756. R. CHARLES."

A COPY *of Lord* BARRINGTON'S *Letter to the Agent, containing the second SCHEME for employing foreign Officers,* &c. *viz.*

SIR, *War-Office, January* 14, 1756.

I have communicated to the King's Servants the Observations which I had received from the Agents of the *North-American* Colonies, on a Proposal for raising a Regiment of his Majesty's foreign Subjects there: These Observations have been carefully and maturely weighed, and in Compliance with what is there stated to be the Opinion and Inclinations of the Colonies, that Scheme is laid aside. But as the Want of Officers and Engineers is very apparent, and not to be supplied from hence, and it is much desired to mix the Foreigners settled there with his Majesty's natural-born Subjects in *America,* and to avail ourselves of their Strength in this Time of universal Danger to the Colonies, the inclosed Scheme has been proposed, which is thought to be free from all the Objections made to the other. If you have any to this, I wish you would propose Amendments, which shall be attended to and considered, and I hope they will be communicated to me as soon as possible, as something must be concluded upon by the Beginning of next Week. I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

BARRINGTON."

The SCHEME, sent with the above Letter.

The Want of Officers and regular Troops in *North-America* being very apparent, it is proposed, that instead of Mr. *Prevost's* Scheme, an Estimate be laid before Parliament of a Regiment, consisting of three Battalions, to be raised out of his Majesty's foreign and other Protestant Subjects residing in *North-America.*

And that a Bill be brought in, to enable his Majesty to give Commissions to foreign Protestants, not exceeding the Number of Half the Officers in the said Regiment, to serve in the same, or as Engineers, to be entituled to Half Pay, but not to rank or to serve any where but in *America;* and to be provided in the said Bill, that the Command of the Regiment be always in a natural-born Subject.

It may be proper to be declared to be his Majesty's Intention, that a certain Proportion of these Commissions be given to *Americans.*"

The AGENT'S *LETTER to Lord* BARRINGTON, *in Answer to the foregoing*, viz.

My LORD, *Golden-Square, January* 17, 1756.

I have had the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 14th Instant, inclosing a new Scheme for raising a Regiment consisting of three Battalions, out of his Majesty's foreign and other Protestant Subjects residing in *North-America;* and acquainting me that Mr. *Prevost's* Scheme is laid aside.

As I find, my Lord, by the Proposition of bringing in a Bill to enable his Majesty to give Commissions to foreign Protestants, who are not to exceed Half the Number of the Officers of the said Regiment, that the Intention of employing foreign Officers is still continued, I must, with all humble Submission, make use of the Liberty your Lordship has been pleased to give me, by continuing to declare my Apprehensions, that this Measure may be productive of much Jealousy and Discontent, and may retard rather than accelerate the Inlistment of the proposed Corps, which is the first and principal Object; for I do conceive, that the Raising of this Regiment cannot be more effectually and speedily carried on than by a proper Partition of the Commissions between his Majesty's natural-born Subjects here, those in *America*, and the naturalized foreign Protestants, who have acquired Property in the *British* Colonies; these, my Lord, by their Residence, and from their Influence and Acquaintance, must be better able to promote this Service than Officers who are totally Strangers. And it cannot but prove a much more acceptable Measure to the Inhabitants of the Colonies in general, to see the military Commissions placed in such Hands, than to find them given to Persons who have no natural Connexion with the Country or People they are sent to defend. I have the Honour to be, with great Esteem, *My Lord,*

Your Lordship's most humble, and most obedient Servant,

R. Charles."